

Public Libraries

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An Important Aspect at the Present Time*

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This subject has been brought to my attention by a series of questions, such as "Do people sing and laugh as much as they used to?"—and then, "Don't you think we are losing a great deal, now?"—and then, "What are you doing in the library to avoid such a loss?"—and, "Oh, you have books of humor and comedy? Do people read them?"—and then, "Well, what are you going to do about it?" In the silly way that one will, the first thing I did was to lose two or three nights' sleep over it, before I settled down to take an inventory of what I knew about the books which might make people laugh.

All this was a couple of years ago, and in the meantime it was temporarily forgotten, as we read up war books, and gave them out to a waiting public, who took eagerly everything and anything we cared to hand them; European history or geography, international relations, or military tactics. Loaning books to our adult readers in these first few months of the war was very easy. The subject was an intensely interesting one that appealed to everybody, and was, at the same time, quite impersonal, for none of us had relatives who had reached the firing line as yet. The enthusiasm continued on into the second year, though conditions were changing. We were by this time all receiving letters from the front, and we worried more or less, even though we were pretty optimistic as to the outcome.

*Read before the Ontario library association, April 9, at Toronto.

The bulk of the reading now, consisted of personal narratives of the war and novels with a war setting. Gradually this condition merged into the present, when we hear the men say they are "fed up" on the war, and the women say, "No, I don't want to hear about it," a state of affairs produced on the one hand by a terrible mental depression, and on the other by ennui at the fact that the end comes so slowly. The next phase will be either a fatalistic indifference, or an aggressive effort to meet life's problems like men. What influence are we, as librarians going to bring to bear at this point, what reading? Are we going to drift with the tide, and continue to give them the mental anesthesia that they think they want, and if not, then what? Of course, there are many social problems in which they should be interested, but do you think that now is the psychological moment in which to present them? I don't. The library has always recognized its obligation to inform; the majority of us also see that we are filling a perfectly legitimate function in simply amusing the tired world; but how about making it laugh? There! That two-year-old question is back at me and with renewed force. I cannot get away from it. People are not laughing as they used to; faces are aging under our very eyes, and in keeping with that fact a sentence keeps running through my head, "I am very sure of this—that the sane, well-balanced, healthy nation, must have a fund of laughter in it." This is my problem, and not being a Mrs Gummidge, and so imagining that we of the west "feel things more than other folks," I take it for granted that it has occurred to you also, and consequently I would like

to talk it over with you for a few moments.

There are two cartoonists whose work is being followed the world over. On the head of one, Raemakers, the Germans have set a price owing to the recruiting influence which he exerts by means of his realistic depiction of the horrors of the invasion of Belgium. These cartoons will live as long as the memory of man, and in the meantime they awaken the conscience of any who should be fighting and who are not, and leave the rest of us to have nightmares as we chafe against our helplessness. A great artist and a great patriot is Raemakers, and thankful are we for the work he has done. In contrast with him is another, Bairnsfather. He is not a great cartoonist, or even a very good draftsman as he pictures the humorous side of trench life, but for this generation at least, he will be remembered with thankful hearts as the man who made the Empire laugh. Surely that is a reputation worth having, when we know that his laugh in no way lessens his sympathetic understanding of his favorite privates, Bill and Bertie, nor does it in anyway belittle the cause for which our boys are giving their all. In fact, he makes use of his ability to make the soldiers laugh, as so much munition of warfare, knowing that they will fight all the better for it; that it will act upon them like a tonic, will exhilarate them like a cold plunge. Surely he is doing as important a work as Raemakers. With such an example to follow one need hardly apologize, if one decided also to try to bring a little more laughter to the lips and hearts of some of those at home with us, many of whom are doing their part just as bravely and loyally as even our boys at the front, and so, I too, have been getting my little pile of laughter producing ammunition ready.

The task has not proceeded very rapidly, for I have not read a great deal of humor, or at least not deliberately; but what I have, I have tried to organize and get ready for any emergency, and some of my findings I will pass on to you. In mentioning some of the books which have made me laugh, I will doubtless only

be recalling to your remembrance many of your own old favorites. On the other hand, I will undoubtedly be omitting many of equal merit which you particularly like. I would not have you think, however, that I have any intention of suggesting reading to you; all that I wish to do is to hint that there is another rather interesting viewpoint, which may be more or less novel. In such a spontaneous thing as laughter, one can have no very set rules, and so, even though you may think my selection rather unorthodox, I claim the right of a free citizen, to giggle and corkle where I please, glad if you can laugh with me, but quite content if simply by my weak push I start you off to look for your own munition, where you please.

In the first place,—but tell it not in Gath, publish it not in the streets of Askelon, I love nonsense verse, and can look with a forgiving eye on even a parodist, while I am willing to have you put me in the Stone age, with the other lovers of epigrams and such literary follies; which reminds me that the epigram was a form of humor very popular among those other ancients. . . . One of the most humorous of the modern epigrams is that to Oscar Browning, who, as you remember, was familiarly known among his friends as "O. B." He also had more than his fair share of *avoiirdupois*.

O. B. oh be obedient,
To nature's stern decrees,
For if you will not be, O. B.
You will be too obese.

The parody, on the other hand, never came to its own until the nineteenth century, when, starting with the Smith Brothers, who made themselves famous with their ridiculous "Rejected addresses," there followed William Aytoun, Theodore Martin, Richard Harris Barham and many others. Do you remember that one in imitation of the Burial of Sir John Moore?

Not a sou had he got, nor a guinea or note,
And he looked most confoundedly flurried,
As he bolted away without paying his shot,
And the landlady after him hurried.

and so on to the amusing if rather vulgar

end. One of my favorite parodies is Calverley's "Tinker."

I loiter down by thorp and town,
For any job I'm willing,
Take here and there a dusty brown,
And here and there a shilling.

I deal in every ware in turn,
I've rings for buddin' Sally,
Which sparkle like the eyes of her'n,
I've liquor for the valet.

The things I've done 'neath moon and stars
Have got me into messes,
I've seen the sky through prison bars,
I've torn up prison dresses,

But out again I come and show
My face, nor care a stiver,
For trades are brisk, and trades are slow,
But mine goes on forever.

If you are interested in parodies, look up Bret Harte, Lewis Carroll, Orpheus C. Keer, who used to speak of himself as "Office Seeker," and Carolyn Wells, and even Kipling, Swinburne, and Thackeray, for they, too, indulged in this form of fun at time.

Those of you who have laughed over the nonsense drama in a Midsummer night's dream should surely gloat over Lewis Carroll, Edward Lear, and that prince of English humorists, Sir William Gilbert. Gellert Burgess' famous limerick,—

I never saw a purple cow,
I never wish to see one,
But I can tell you anyhow,
I'd rather see, than be one.

is only an echo of Lear's
There was an old man who said: How
Shall I flee from this terrible cow?

I will sit on this stile,
And continue to smile,
Which may soften the heart of this cow.

Theodore Hook, Tom Hood, Calverley, and Charles Lamb, all indulged in nonsense both in verse and prose, which reminds me that some of the keenest bits of wit to be found any place are in Lamb's letters. I need hardly call your attention to his humorous essays.

John Kendrick Bang's *Houseboat on the Styx* was the first humorous book that caught me in its grip. I read it twice at one sitting and I would not like to say how often since. As you know, it is a story of Hades. Some of the citizens finding the climate rather warm, hire Charon and his boat, and the story

centers round their conversations, Elizabeth and Eve, Darwin and Xanthippi, P. T. Barnum and Noah, and many others taking part in it. I am glad to say that the author's most recent book, "From pillar to post," is quite as full of humor and human interest. How about W. W. Jacobs? He is at his very best in his short stories. Start on his "Many cargoes," and be sure to read the "Story of the gray parrot." I need hardly remind you of Mark Twain, either, but if some of you young people have that treat still in store for you, commence on "Tom Sawyer," and "Puddin' Head Wilson," and then take some of the short stories, such as Eve's diary. . . . Do you know the English author, Guthrie, who used the pseudonym of Anstey, and was the author of the "Talking horse," and "Vice-versa"? He also wrote that very humorous sketch "A Bayard from Bengal." This first appeared in *Punch*, that fun-loving paper, which has introduced to us so many of the good things of life, and among them, Thackeray and Douglas Jerrold, Charles Keen and Leach, Owen Seaman, and our own Peter McArthur. Do you know Peter? In addition to *Punch*, he has written for *Fun*, *Judge*, *Life* and *Puck*, and is known and loved in every country but Canada. New York claims him, London looks upon him as her own and Paris would love to adopt him, while we have him here in Middlesex county, and scarcely know him. It is very strange, especially when we compare his reception with that tendered to Stephen Leacock, who is read from coast to coast. Leacock, of course you know. He is always funny (when he wants to be), but he is at his very best when Leacock reads Leacock's stories.

In mentioning some of the great English humorists, such as Dickens and Thackeray, Lever, and Washington Irving, Marryat and Lover, Lowell, and Oliver Wendell Holmes, one is reminded of the unfortunate fact that so many people imagine that, because they are classics, they only appeal to the intellectual, so-called. Of course, nothing could be further from the truth, but if again, some of you are reading them for the

first time, on this your search after our needed fighting material, "Laughter," try picking out odd chapters, deliberately looking for the funny ones. Speaking of picking out things reminds me: has it ever occurred to you that there are but few of the classics which do not contain the keenest wit? Do you know that Moses was responsible for the saying "There are no flies on us," or that Martin Luther dearly loved a joke, or that Pilgrim's Progress is full of quaint and amusing conceits, while Plato's dialogues abound in jokes at the expense of mankind's follies? You can get a laugh almost any place in the dialogues. Do you remember when Hippocrates came running to Socrates to tell him that Protagoras had arrived. Of course he was wildly excited, and burst into Socrates' house, exclaiming "Protagoras has come!" To tease, Socrates pretended to be quite indifferent, and only answered, "Well, what is the matter? Has Protagoras robbed you?" . . . and then they both burst out laughing in the most modern twentieth century way at their harmless little joke.

In mentioning some of our modern humorists, I almost forgot our nice Mr Dooley, and John Joy Bell. Scotland's worst enemy could not fail to find fun in "Wee Macgregor." Have you read "Wee Macgregor enlists"? If you are interested in amusing and sympathetic Irish stories, try "The wiles of Sexton Magannis," and "All on the Irish shore," and the "Search party," and "Spanish gold," and "The Major's niece," and while you are in the mood, don't forget "Keeping up with Lizzie," and "Three men in a boat, not to mention the dog," and "Pigs is pigs," and "In need of a change." You do know the "Luck of Roaring camp," don't you? Do you ever read Bernard Shaw's comedies, and Gilbert Chesterton? Even in his editorials in the *Illustrated London News*, the latter is often very funny. He wrote such an amusing limerick, which I would like to quote, but I am afraid it would shock the ears of modest Toronto! And there is Hilaire Belloc, who is very funny in spots, and Stockton (of course you know

Pomona?), and Stevenson's *Wrong box*, and many others which now come to my mind, but which must be left out on account of limited time.

This is enough, however, to give you an idea of the character of my little pile of ammunition. In gathering it I have had many a laugh, but I assure you that it has also been gathered in all seriousness, and I have it ready at hand to pass out to our readers, when I see them attacked by Giant Despair, or that horrid imp, Indifference, or that green-eyed monster, Unconstructive Criticism. Sometimes the fuses fail to ignite, and sometimes we inadvertently hand out the wrong bomb, with disastrous results to our reputation, but generally they are very welcome to our weary recipient, and operate satisfactorily, and often only one shell is required to tide them over the heart-breaking attack, when they are able again, cheerfully, sanely and bravely, to return to the battle of life, and do their part towards winning in the struggle against the social, economic and moral enemies of civilization.

Samuel French has added to his list seven hitherto unpublished plays of Augustus Thomas. Each volume contains a preface by the author, in which he relates the story of the genesis of the play, its writing and production. Here is one of the illuminating parenthetical remarks that are at the same time revelatory of Mr Thomas' innermost ideas; it is in the preface to *In Mizzoura*:

I doubt if the production of novels, even to the writer temperamentally disposed to that form of expression, is as absorbing as play making. The difference between the novel and the play is the difference between *was* and *is*. Something has happened for the writer of the novel and for his people. He describes it as it was, and them as they were. In the play something *is happening*. Its form is controversial, and the playwright, by force of this controversy, is in turn each one of his characters, and not merely a witness of their doings. When they begin to take hold of him, their possession is more and more insistent—all interests in real life become secondary and remote until the questions in dispute are not only decided, but there is also a written record of the debates and the decision.

The Work of the Traveling Librarian*

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In order to understand what this work has been, it is necessary to review somewhat the physical, racial, and economic conditions as well as the older library history; for all of these forces have played an important part in forming the present library problem.

If a topographical map of Pennsylvania be put before you, you would see that it is truly mountain ribbed, the long lines running northeast by southwest, dividing the central part of the state into long narrow valleys. These mountains acted for many years as barriers, segregating the people, developing them into isolated groups, acting independently of one another. This mountain barrier is of such strength that only one trunk-line railroad crosses the state from east to west, and it must accomplish its feat in a very zig-zaggy manner. All of the other railroads starting in the eastern part are deflected to the north or south, going out of the state to get around these mountains and coming in again west of them. Also it is the only one of the Atlantic seaboard colonies that did not break in two on the mountain line. This really makes two states—one eastern, centered around Philadelphia and one, west of the mountains centered around Pittsburgh. Add to this the independence of those central valleys and the individualism of the "northern tier" of counties, claimed by Connecticut and settled by Yankees, having their natural outlet in New York state and knowing much better what is being done at Albany than at Harrisburg. You can see that concerted action and mutual interest in anything is hard to attain.

And this adverse topography—so wonderfully beautiful as it is—isn't our most centrifugal force, for mountains can be climbed or tunneled in time. But it seems almost impossible to join the Friend, the Pennsylvania German, the

Yankee and the Scotch-Irishman in a united friendly state feeling. The Friend's placid and kindly attitude of mind has always been ruffled by the Scotch-Irishman's belligerency, from the times when he would fight the Indians until today when he is just as disturbing by being ready to fight the "Mad-dog" of Europe, if necessary. Indeed, at one time in colonial days, so history tells us, the Friend became so ruffled by his up-river colonists that when they came down, armed to enforce their demands, he was armed to meet them. And the Scotch-Irishman was so dumbfounded upon finding Philadelphia prepared that he meekly marched back to Harrisburg without firing a single shot—a proof of the value of preparedness that its present Friends should not overlook.

Then both the Friend and the Scotch-Irishman held the gentle thrifty Pennsylvania Dutchman in scorn, because he asked only to be allowed to pick out the rich soil to till, protected by the fiery Scot on the west from the dangers of the wilderness and by the Friend on the east from the dangers of the European aggression; to speak his own language, keep his own customs and to worship his God in his own way, even if it was expressed by wearing hooks and eyes instead of buttons on his clothes and eating veal stew and half moon pies at the Sunday service. But most cutting of all was the scorn of the Yankee from that "northern tier" of counties for all his fellow statesmen, in whose pronunciation the broad a and the nasal twang was not heard. Then add to these four formidable forces of the old colonial days, the individualistic traits of every other race on the face of this globe, plus more than one hundred languages and dialects spoken, and you have Pennsylvania's racial problem of today.

Also the natural resources of the state—so rich that it is said a wall could be built around it, a few raw products brought in and she could take care of herself—have created much wealth and much poverty, tense labor conditions, and a life so filled with the rush and labor of production that there is little leisure for

*From a paper by Miss MacDonald of the Pennsylvania library commission on A library for the state—at-large, read at Atlantic City, March 3, 1917.

the things of the spirit. Really, hasn't any co-ordinating task under such conditions, some serious obstacles to overcome? And yet, the co-ordinating of our library work is surely well under way.

The Friend brought with him a love of books, and libraries soon sprang up under his guidance. Early in the eighteen hundreds almost every settlement in his district had its library. Many of these exist today. Some have been reorganized and made free; others are still following the old stock company plan. So you see in fostering our new library growth, we often cannot start fresh with uncultivated soil, but must eradicate the results of an old cultivation before the new can make any headway.

When the new organizer began work in 1907, she found 45 of these libraries following the old order and 78 free public ones. There were really two distinct library associations with little intercourse between them, little state library spirit or cohesion, poor library laws, and little recognition of, or help given to the small library.

Her first task was to become acquainted with her field of work, with the libraries already existing and to win their friendship and co-operation. So tours of discovery were planned to study railway facilities, local conditions and needs and the libraries already at work.

It is doubtful whether the famous expedition of Lewis and Clark was more eventful than this first year of exploration by the organizer. She discovered how hopelessly contrary railway schedules and connections may be. The noted "Mary, Mary, quite contrary" is nothing to them. They seemed to delight in landing her late at night at some hotel, to be followed shortly by the absolutely pitiless call before it is light the next morning for an early start, with possibly later a nonsensical wait of hours at some lonely junction—hours which might have been spent so much more comfortably before that hotel porter's conscience made him call her. A whole paper could be written on this subject alone—of one hotel which the organizer knows as well at 2:15 a. m. when she sometimes arrives,

as she does at 6 a. m. when she sometimes departs. Of brakemen who simply will not call stations clearly and carry her by important junction points, and then demand why she is trying to travel further than the mileage "pulled"! Of the brightness of the stars in the nipping cold of the early morning when a cheerless hotel is left in the company of some fellow-suffering traveling salesman or workman, to find the ghostly way to the station. Of how hot the sun may be and how dusty the trains in summer, how wet the rain, or how cold the wind, especially if a drive of some miles through drifted snow is necessary to meet the next engagement.

However, the railways, like Mother Nature, never exact that they do not also give. A sunrise is infinitely more beautiful than a sunset if one's eyes are open enough to see and one's temper in a mood to appreciate it. That lonely junction may have a beautiful view spread out before it, or an enticing walk. The cheerless hotel of the early morning had probably a warm friendly greeting the night before, and the brakeman who will not call the stations clearly may be delightfully human enough to tell one on the next trip, "Gee, how mad you were when we carried you by last time." And later in helping to plan for the local library meetings, the organizer remembers sympathetically the route the librarian has to travel to attend them and plans accordingly.

A more cordial reception could not be imagined than the majority of the librarians and trustees had for the organizer when they understood what her work was. Occasionally she was asked, "What line she was carrying," or the remark, "I haven't time to look at any books today," and a very few times it was intimated more or less strongly, that they could run their library without help (?) from the state. But one of the increasing joys of the work has been the hearty co-operation of the libraries and any success attained is due more to this than to any other cause. All the good laws, wealth of support and excellence of the state department count for little if the right library spirit does not exist in the li-

braries themselves. The Library commission is a friendly backer and helper. It has no powers of compulsion. It can say "this is the better way," or "that is bad," but it cannot use "must" or "shall." And while we have no standard set by law to which the libraries must attain, we also have no limit to what they may attain. It all rests with the local librarian and her board and while excellence may come more slowly, it comes more naturally and substantially, and best of all, all credit goes where it belongs—to those whose efforts have won. The president of a library board recently asked the library visitor if she realized, they were now doing all the various things the visitor urged them to do when they organized, two years before, which they thought would not work in their town? Doing now of their own initiative because they realized it was best, and not because they were compelled to do so by an outside authority—a result worth waiting two years for.

The organizer has had to feel her way, to support and guide as needed, to scold and be emphatic when she must, with trustees as well as librarians. But the idea through it all is to help the local library attain its best through the local forces and because they want to do it.

But what does the Library commission do for the public library besides lending them books? someone is asking. It sends the library visitor, when asked, to consult with those wishing to arouse interest in either the library already existing, or in starting a new movement. This group may be a club, a union committee, the school board, councils, an individual. It may take the form of a public meeting, or a council over a lunch, a cup of tea, or before an open wood fire. Local conditions are gone over carefully and then plans are evolved to arouse interest in the idea, to launch the movement, to raise money, to find a room and furnish it, to get books, a librarian, supplies, rules and so on. Then later, when all is ready, the visitor returns and superintends the organizing if a trained librarian cannot be afforded.

And the organizer has learned many

things in this promoting and organizing work. The preliminary steps taught her how to present them, how to approach her audience and drive home the points made; when to "stand pat" and when to give way. And above all, to be satisfied with less than her ideal at first, if necessary; to have faith that it will gradually come and to be willing to work for and gain a little this year and more next, just as fast as the library makes its place in the community and grows through the influence it exerts. It is the very best foundation possible, even if it does take patience.

And oh, the jolt which came to the library-school side of the visitor's training when she organized that first good sized library! She had had a delightful experience organizing a tiny library in a town of about 1,000 people. A group of women had formed a library association, rented the only available room—an old dilapidated building. They got the inside put in good shape through the gifts of the paper-hanger, the painter, the lumber dealer and the carpenter. They had employed a librarian who was a joy because of her interest and natural aptitude for the work, and everybody was eager to help and to enjoy the library, even if their supply of books did not reach the 400 mark and had all been donated. You may be interested in knowing that in 5 years their supply of books reached 3,000, two small traveling library stations were being maintained, council was contributing sufficient for paying the librarian's salary and a splendid civic work had been started owing to the initiative the library had given it.

The second organizing experience was very different and the organizer learned thoroughly what were essentials and what non-essentials, and to be glad to get the work done any way, just so it was done in a fairly accurate usable form. This town had a population of some 7,000. A fine new school building contained a very attractive library room, an enthusiastic committee collected about \$1,000 to start the library, the school board was ready to support it and to employ a trained librarian. Every-

thing seemed to be moving splendidly when the new tax levy was announced! The wail which followed was so long and loud it sent all the active ones to cover, expectations of a trained librarian vanished and a hurry call reached Harrisburg. There was nothing for it but to train an untrained librarian and organize with the aid of friendly helpers, in a room furnished largely with old school desks, and with only three days a week at the disposal of the organizer for the work, and a seven hour journey to get there. Imagine that room piled with books on the floor in every direction, the location of the pile indicating whether they were in the pasting stage, the accession pile, ready for cataloging, or the final revision and shelving. Three typewriters were going a greater part of the time, used by students taking the business course in the school and sent to make book cards for their practice work. A dozen helpers were sitting on the benches doing blindly the thing they were told to do and having a hilarious time all the while. And the almost distracted leader was going over all books first, selecting, discarding and teaching the new librarian to classify, while trying to keep an eye on the various piles of books to prevent mixing and on the work turned out to catch glaring mistakes. Why attempt anything excepting the barest necessities until later, after the librarian has worked in some other library, or taken a summer school course? But these necessities must be well done—so well that there will be no need to do them over again—only to build on as needed. And organizing in this way has its peculiar advantages in the hold it gains on all those who work for it. Now, we purposely plan to have the Boy scouts do some definite work for the new library, as gathering up the books promised, running errands, and in one case, building the shelves, the Camp fire girls can generally be counted on for the pasting and general help; and the services of as many grown ups as can be enticed into it, are used until they become thoroughly interested in the success of the institution. Such a foundation is far better for the

future growth of the library than a forced tax, for the tax is sure to come willingly when the library has had time to prove itself, backed up by all these friends.

Every opportunity is taken to visit the libraries already established, sometimes just to listen to the woes of the librarian who has no other understanding ear into each she may unburden her soul; often to plan some new work or go over details of old; to have conferences with boards of trustees, at times to scold them, but more often to encourage and put before them a larger vision of their opportunity.

Cost vs. Expenditure

Editor, PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

Since my name is used in the letter of Mr Edwin H. Anderson, published in the May number of PUBLIC LIBRARIES, I offer the following comments in order more clearly to state my position regarding the figures:

I fear that the note printed in March PUBLIC LIBRARIES* was not compiled directly from my report, since, as Mr Anderson points out, there is an error in the Philadelphia figures. The note also refers to the *cost* per volume of circulation, whereas I have always taken great pains in the past several years, during which similar figures have been included in my reports, to make it clear in the tables and in accompanying comments that they were figures of *expenditures* per volume of circulation in the libraries compared. Furthermore, in commenting on the comparative figures I think I have invariably pointed out that the expenditures per volume circulated by the Washington public library have always been too low—that we ought to be enabled to raise our average by the payment of better salaries and by otherwise increasing overhead charges that would result in enlarged expenditures per volume of circulation. In other words, these comparative figures have not primarily been used to prove economical administration,

*[The note was taken from an eastern newspaper and used for a filler because of its suggestive interest. Editor.]

but rather as arguments for larger expenditures per unit of service.

Although Mr Anderson seems to exonerate me from any charge of inaccuracy, he does imply that my figures are unfair. My tables have always been compiled with the greatest care from the financial statements printed in the reports of other libraries, or by direct application to chief librarians, in case of any doubt or where late reports are not available. Every effort to be scrupulously fair in comparisons has always been made. Mr Anderson will recall that in a personal conversation with him a few years ago, he suggested that the figures of the reference department of the New York public library should be excluded from my comparative tables, and I have since done so. I have always felt, however, that as the reference department of the New York public library is an integral part of that library, just as Bates hall is a part of the Boston public library, and that as I was trying to give a comparative statement of the municipal free public libraries of American cities above 200,000, it would not do to ignore that feature of the New York public library. I have therefore, for the sake of completeness, for several years put the figures for it in a foot note and made certain comments on them in the text of my report.

Mr Anderson suggests that if the figures of the reference department of the New York public library are included, then the figures of the Library of Congress ought to be included in those of the Washington public library. In reply I suggest that it is no more fair to include the figures of the Library of Congress (and similarly those of the other libraries of the United States Government), with those of the municipal library of Washington than it would be to include with the figures of the New York public library those of the libraries of Columbia and other universities of New York, the United Engineering Society library, and other libraries located in New York. I believe that Mr Anderson will agree with me that if no person living outside of Greater New York ever used his library, its 5,000,000 and more of population

would still require the present service and expenditures of the New York public library. He would not claim, I suppose, that the 360,000 local population of the District of Columbia would require the present large collections, services and expenditures represented by the Library of Congress (and other government libraries), the chief or most expensive use of which is in connection with government activities and by visiting scholars.

Mr Anderson rightly suggests that such tables are compiled for local consumption. Mine have always had just such a very practical end. They have never been compiled primarily with my professional colleagues in mind.

From my long experience I have come to the conclusion that the staple article of diet of Congressmen, or at least members of appropriation committees is composed of statistics. The tables and other comparative figures included in my reports represent those that have recurrently been called for by appropriation committees. They are now, therefore, deliberately compiled and printed as a matter of preparedness for appearances before appropriation committees.

GEORGE F. BOWERMAN,
Librarian.

Public library, District of Columbia.

Training for Librarianship

Editor of PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

Miss Baker's reply to your inquiry into the reason for the scarcity of catalogers, in spite of good salaries, is a very interesting document. The reasons adduced to poor working quarters and unsatisfactory organization of the work does not concern me just now; it is a matter of administration, and I might return to that question another time. My concern now is the statement that library workers in general are losing interest in cataloging and look with mild contempt on those who show interest in this branch of the service, regarding them as freaks. It seems to me that this statement is an indictment of the intellectual calibre of those who enter the profession. And if,

as Miss Baker says, those who teach cataloging in the library schools are unable to inspire the students with respect for what really should be the fundamental study in the schools, then there is something the matter with the schools which might be called to the attention of the A. L. A. committee on library training. By the way, why "training"? The word tastes of the work bench. It brings to mind the old question about what library work is; is it a (learned) profession or is it a technical trade? What is required of librarians, knowledge, based on careful and sustained study or merely technical skill or knack of handling routine matters?

I wish to take this opportunity to urge again the absolute necessity of the establishment by some university of a course in bibliography and library administration for library school graduates and for graduate students in general. I have recently had occasion to outline a plan for such a course. I publish it here, in the hope that it may come under the sympathetic eyes of someone in authority:

1) A four year college course, leading to the degree B. A., the first three years devoted to a general course in such subjects as modern languages, history of civilization and of science, sociology, etc., the fourth, to subjects directly connected with library work: general bibliography, cataloging, classification, indexing, preceded by a brief course in the history of libraries and with one on books and their use running through the whole year. The minor branches of library technique: accession, circulation, ordering records, etc., should be given as practice work at the end of the course. Each student should be required to prepare a brief bibliography or reference list on a subject assigned by the faculty.

2) A two year graduate course, leading to the degree of M. A., the first year devoted to advanced and comparative studies of the subjects studied in the fourth college year, with the addition of a course on the principles of library administration, and one in the history of printing and the book trade and graphic arts in general, the second to special bib-

liography, paleography, history of museums and other institutions of learning, continuing the study of the history of science and industry. Each student should be required to prepare a thesis on a subject selected by himself and accompanied by an annotated bibliography.

The order of taking up the various subjects might be altered, but the emphasis should be placed on the theoretical and historical aspects, with just enough practice work to give the student an acquaintance with actual work. As to the mode of study, the seminar method, in which teacher and students work together in solving problems, is recommended as the most suitable method for the study of these subjects.

AKSEL G. S. JOSEPHSON.

The John Crerar library,
Chicago.

* * * * *

Since writing the above, I have received the May *Library Journal* containing an address by Mr Henry on "Librarianship as a profession." He makes there one point on which I wish to add a few remarks, namely, that there are two grades of library workers, clerks and librarians. The distinction between the two lies not so much in the required educational qualifications as in the character of the work as arranged in the plan of the individual library. Especially in larger libraries with a more complicated organization there are quite responsible positions that are concerned so largely with routine work that they are in fact clerkships, but, and this is the point, require for their competent mastery the general outlook into the library field that is acquired only through professional studies, though the strictly scientific studies contemplated in the above outlined graduate course are not required for persons who wish to qualify for clerical positions and are satisfied to stay there.

Another thing: perhaps more than in other professions with the possible exception of the teaching profession, the personal qualifications play a very large rôle in library work. There are library school students and college graduates that will never grow above the grade of clerks,

who lack the power of application necessary for successful work in, for instance, a catalog or reference department of a library of more than insignificant size. And there are others, with perhaps, only high-school education and who may never get a chance to acquire a scientific bibliographical education but who, in spite of that, through native ability, ambition and perseverance will qualify for the higher grade.

All this complicates the situation not a little.

A. G. S. J.

Duplication

Editor, PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

I was very much interested in Mr Borden's article in the May number of PUBLIC LIBRARIES, especially the point made in the second paragraph on page 178. I think we must, for the sake of economy, make sure that libraries are not duplicated to such an extent and that we must have a centralized county and state system. That is what we are trying for in Oregon, as will be seen by our last report.

Very sincerely,
CORNELIA MARVIN,
Librarian.

Oregon State library.

Preparation for Library Work

Permit me to call attention to an article on the Case against compulsory latin, by Dr Charles W. Eliot, in the March number of the *Atlantic Monthly*.

Librarians will get much sidelight on vexatious problems that come to them in their library service, by reading what the distinguished writer has to say about the things with which the highest human interests are concerned; namely, religion, government and means of supporting and improving a family.

There is a connection here that might lead to a consideration of the examinations for entrance to the library schools and preparation for the same. I have often thought it would be very much better to drop the examinations in languages, as comparatively few librarians have to do with literature in foreign languages,

and to put in examinations in economics and political science. Students are constantly asking what they shall study as preparation for library school. The library schools ought to show by their work and the products of their schools, what students ought to study as preparation for library work after they have finished the courses in the high school.

OBSERVER.

Library Codes or Manuals

The eastern and central conferences of university and college libraries have expressed an interest in library codes and manuals, and have asked the undersigned to investigate and to render a report looking toward the formulation, if possible, of a general code of practices and methods. Such a code might well be of service in eliminating bad practices and in relating the larger and smaller libraries.

Looking forward to a meeting at the Louisville conference, will not libraries that have reduced any part of their routine to writing please communicate at once with the undersigned in order that they may know how extensive this custom is and that they may decide about actually consulting these copies.

WILLARD AUSTEN, librarian
Cornell university library
Ithaca, New York.

F. K. W. DRURY, assistant librarian
University of Illinois library
Urbana, Illinois

The Public library at Crookston, Minn., recently had what they called "Bargain day." The idea back of it was to induce persons who were keeping overdue books out of the library on account of the fine assessed, to bring them back and so it was announced that between certain hours all books that were returned to the library would be received without a charge and no questions asked. The librarian, Miss Lommen, said in speaking of it:

We tried this plan as a remedy
And find it helps in a way,
But some people are so busy with other things
They forget even Bargain Day.

Public Libraries

MONTHLY - EXCEPT AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER

Library Bureau	- - - - -	Publishers
M. E. AHERN	- - - - -	Editor
Subscription	- - - - -	\$2 a year
Five copies to one library	- - - - -	\$8 a year
Single number	- - - - -	25 cents
Foreign subscriptions	- - - - -	\$2.25 a year

Entered as second-class matter May 17, 1896, at the Post office at Chicago, Ill., under act of March 3, 1897.

By the rules of the banks of Chicago an Exchange charge of 10 cents is made on all out-of-town checks for \$10 and under. In remitting subscriptions, therefore, checks on New York or Chicago banks or post-office money orders should be sent.

When a change of address is ordered, both the new and the old address must be given. The notice should be sent two weeks before the change is to take effect.

If a subscriber wishes his copy of the magazine discontinued at the expiration of his subscription, notice to that effect should be sent. Otherwise it is assumed that a continuance of the subscription is desired.

Copies failing to reach subscribers, through loss in the mails, will be duplicated without charge if request to do so is received within 30 days after publication. Later than that duplicate copies can be supplied only at regular rates.

A recollection—The recent visit of the French commission to Boston was made the occasion by the trustees of the Boston public library of calling attention thru a public letter to the almost forgotten fact of the contribution toward the founding of that library by a French citizen, Alexandre Vattemare. The trustees termed him the real founder of the library. M. Vattemare brought to Boston in 1839, a gift of 50 books, presented to Boston by the city of Paris. His address on the occasion spread the idea of a free public library before the people of Boston. From this nucleus of 50 books, it began its career which today carries on the system of more than a million books in the Boston public library. It is an obscure event in which a public library is not concerned.

A. L. A. for 1917—The meeting of the American Library Association will have been held before another number of PUBLIC LIBRARIES appears and so, as the last

opportunity, PUBLIC LIBRARIES takes the privilege of urging all library workers and library trustees who can find it possible, to attend the meeting at Louisville.

There is need at the present time for personal contact for the psychological effect of group action and for the cultivation of a feeling of solidarity in the things that librarians of all kinds are trying to do. It will be an opportunity for librarians to line up, to bring into view evidence of the value of their work in this critical time and in a way, to appeal to the understanding of the general public, that has never been equalled in the history of the association before. The fact that times are distressful and that there are heavy problems ahead should only serve to incite librarians to more poise, greater vision, reasonable service and to a belief in themselves and their work as a direct contribution and obligation to the times.

The spirit shown in the story of the Colonial assembly, which in the midst of its deliberations was startled by a very unusual eclipse of the sun that began to make itself felt in the council chambers, might well serve as an example. It will be remembered that there were those present who, in great fear, wished to depart, others wished the discussion to cease and prayerful preparation made for what was declared to be the end of the world. The sturdy figure of the chairman of the meeting draws one's admiration, when in a calm manner he ordered candles to be brought so that, "if it may be that the Lord is come, He shall find us engaged in the performance of the duties of the hour."

It is to be hoped that those who are thinking that this year is the time to stay away from A. L. A. will finally conclude this is the year to come and contribute,

to expand professionally and personally, to send the line of professional interest upward and upward to stay.

If the libraries do not, by the effectiveness of the service which they render, impress on those engaged in providing ways and means for carrying on the work at this time, it is but natural that the latter, unaware of the service rendered by the public library to the community, should hit upon that institution as one that may well be curtailed in its finances and extension at a time of stress in finding the wherewithall to carry on the material affairs of the community. The library in these times, should be counted. It is needed. Its influence is vital in revivifying soul, mind and body in hours of stress, and one failing to see the opportunity and duty before him at such a time is recreant, as much so as one too selfish to render national service in any other line of endeavor.

For an example, in referring to the condition in England among the libraries there, the highest commendation is deserved by those who have stood firmly against the reduction of library appropriations, against the suggestions that have been made here and there, that the library be closed, that the salaries for the women taking the place of the men called to the front be reduced and in various ways, shutting down on the stream of inspiration, education and recreation which is more greatly needed at this time than ever before in the history of the library movement.

The duty of the hour—In the address of President Locke before the Ontario library association recently, he took occasion to call attention to the obligation of the public library in the great world movement of the war. He said in part:

In these days there is no difference between a privilege and an obligation. What we ought to do we have done so cheerfully that it has become a privilege and the moral tone of the individual has been so heightened as to set a new mark of capability, willingness and even eagerness to serve, that will not easily be lowered.

The service which the public library can

render has still to do with knowledge, information as to why we are at war, what the war means, not only to us personally but to our nation and to our empire and to the world. Where to get this information and ascertain the truth concerning the war, has been the uppermost thought and has caused thinking people at once to consult their library or to protest strongly if there was no such institution. What the people want is modern or latest knowledge and at once. To furnish this promptly is what I call the privilege and obligation of the public library.

Librarians will do well to realize the importance of the obligation set out by Mr Locke. If possible, more than ever before in the history of the library movement, is it the obligation of library workers to obtain for the public, material, showing actual conditions, needs, progress, and purpose of the world movement of today. For, moved by various reasons, there are those who are misstating facts, figures, purposes, aims and objects, and it is to be regretted that a great body believe what they read in the casual newspaper, made to sell, without weighing the circumstances. There is absolutely no reason for this state of affairs. The sources of reliable information through government, state, municipality, associations and individuals, are open so far as the printed material is concerned. This material should be collected, annotated, distributed and brought to the attention of the groups of people to whom it is of value.

To too many, the public library does not supply cheerful encouragement. If ever there was a time when the librarians of the country should be more alert, more sympathetic, more faithful in the task that has been committed to them, it is now. The library should not wait for the community to come to it, but should use every means within its power at this time to touch the life and interests of the community at every angle. Librarians should keep in touch with each other and find out what each is thinking and what the other is doing, so that there may be a universal interest and effort that will go far to remove the weight placed upon everyone by the sad state of affairs.

Never in the history of the public library was there so great an obligation

upon it to come up to the full measure of its purpose and power, as there is at the present time. The library is founded to afford the people of a community, that which it cannot otherwise have, a full, free, efficient source of information, inspiration and education. To furnish this as the times demand, means a working up to the full capacity of every tax supported library in the country. Every resource of the least of these, that will help in the multiform needs of the hour, should be studied and thoroughly learned by everyone who has assumed to be a director of library service in every community in the land. If there is a library force anywhere that does not see, that does not feel the importance of the position every unit in it occupies at this time, let its members sit down and reflect, let them search out their shortcomings that they may be the better prepared for the patriotic duty that is before them. If, after they have honestly done this, they still do not understand their opportunity, they may conclude that another branch of the service calls for them and give someone else the chance to perform the duty which they do not recognize.

Geography, biography, economics, agriculture, domestic science, sanitation, hygiene, travel, description, essays, poetry full of reference and interest to all whose hearts and minds are calling for news of the mysterious "somewhere," all these if put into the hands of those whose gifts have been laid on the altar of their country, will be "aid to the injured" as helpful as any rendered by another.

Quoting Mr Locke again in referring to the condition brought on in Canada by the war, he says:

Just as the individual has found that he has new powers and has tried out these powers in the service of his fellows, so the institutions of our country have been quickened and raised from their more or less abstractness and non-personal character to a more personal and practical basis of responsibility.

Publicity

There was an city and in this city there was an library, the building for which, one certain St Andrew bestowed upon the city.

Within this handsome building reposed many books. Yea, verily, reposed. For few were called (for) and few were chosen.

Whereat the Board of Trustees did take the librarian to task, saying, "How comes it, Librarian, that the people who own these books use them not? If they do not use them, well may they say, 'Verily, verily, we getteth not the worth of our investment.' Ye have the books—the library is swept and garnished to a degree of painfulness. Thou obeyest every canon of cataloging law and thou variest not a hair's breadth from all the minutae and detail laid out as law and gospel in the '80's. But tell us, oh, Librarian, why our neighbors laugh us to scorn because the people of the town useth not their own property?"

Then answereth the librarian, saying, "We must advertise the library. Publicity is the whole of library success." Thereupon the Board of Trustees did say, "Hie thee quickly to thy office and try publicity."

And so, for many days did the librarian pore over library journals and did absorb many articles on library publicity. "Aha," quoth she. "Here is a hummer. It is about books on mining." Whereat she did copy the article and did take it to the printer. Now prepared she for the swarm of men who will come for books on mining. And she did make a stunning bulletin to accompany the list of books on mining. But alas, no one came for books on mining! This was a town where there were many paper mills and there was not a mine within far off miles of it.

OBSERVER.

Correction

By an error of the typist, Miss Jordan was made to say in May (P. L., p. 192) that she approved a movement on foot to foster the writing of juvenile books. Miss Jordan, on the contrary, objects to the writing of books to order on any subject. She thinks and so do most thinking people, that books should be written spontaneously because of a message which the writer has conceived of himself without commission.

White Collection in Cleveland Public Library

For about 20 years, Mr John G. White, the president of the board of trustees of the Cleveland public library, has been giving to the library books in folk-lore, Oriental literature, archaeology, including Egyptology and Assyriology, voyages and travels, and mediaeval literature. The number of volumes and pamphlets has now reached 30,000, with additions at the rate of 2,000 or 3,000 annually. This material has been put in order on the shelves and is now in the process of cataloging; a librarian is in charge, devoting his entire time to the work. As this material is available for loan to those interested, whether residents of Cleveland or not, librarians may appreciate a statement of what they may reasonably expect to find here.

In the general field of folk-lore are included the chief magazines, such as *Melusine*, *Revue des Traditions Populaires*, *Ons Volksleven*, *Folk-lore*, *Dania*, *Archives Suisses des Traditions Populaires*, *Archivio per le Tradizioni Popolari*, *Volkskunde*, etc.

Local folk-lore has several thousand volumes and pamphlets, German being particularly strong. Other notable subjects are ballads (a very large collection, especially English and German); fables; proverbs; gypsies; and mediaeval romances and legends. There is much on Faust, including many German and Dutch chap-books. Tyll Eulenspiegel and the Seven Wise Masters, Rübezahl and Frederick Barbarossa, Barlaam and Joasaph and the English chap-books of the early nineteenth century, all deserve mention. On witchcraft there is less material, but there are some rare and early works, and pamphlets infrequently met with. Alchemy and astrology have not been purchased to any large extent. There are, of course, a good many books on plant and animal lore, and other similar matters, and saints' legends. A subject of recent growth is the American Indians.

Oriental literature is possibly the most notable feature. In all, 140 languages

from all parts of the world are represented, providing material for missionaries and other students of out-of-the-way linguistics, notably African, works in Sanskrit, Arabic, and Persian comprise a collection with few rivals. The abundant representation of editions of Kalidasa may be seen by comparing with Schyler's bibliography (*Jl. Am. Or. S.* 1901). Sa'di, the Vedas and Avestan literature have been bought largely, and there are a great many editions of the Arabian Nights. Sets like the Bibliotheca Indica, and the various Sanskrit series of Benares, Bombay, Chowkhamba, etc., enrich the collection. There is also material on Oriental history and civilization, from which may be selected for mention the history of India, and books on the Oriental calendar and chronology. It should be said that Hebrew is not strong, and that the Chinese and Japanese collections do not include native editions of the texts. A complete set of the Chinese Tripitaka, or Buddhist canon, is a notable exception. Moreover, there is abundant material, in the case of China, of Western issue. The proverb collection is, perhaps, the largest in the United States.

The Orient predominates also in the archaeological division. The Archaeological Survey of India and the neighboring countries is to be found here practically complete. In Assyriology, and even more in Egyptology are to be found almost all the publications of the various foreign exploration funds and archaeological societies, besides a great quantity of treatises. While the file of periodicals is not complete, gaps are being filled in. Though there is little classical archaeology (except for Hellenistic and Roman Egypt and the papyri), American archaeology is strongly represented, including the reproductions of the Mexican and Maya codices.

As voyages and travels offer almost a limitless field, the concentration has been along the lines of ethnological and folk-lore interest, especially as regards Asia and Africa. Included are the important geographical collections like the publications of the Hakluyt Society and the Linschoten Vereeniging, and the "Recueil

de Voyages et de Documents pour servir a l'Histoire de la Geographie."

Mediaeval literature is extensively represented. There are, of course, sets of the works put out by the standard societies publishing mediaeval literature; in addition, most of the individual authors of the Middle Ages are to be found in nearly all editions. The critical material on hand is chiefly on the literary side, purely linguistic treatises and philological journals not falling, as a rule, within the scope of this part of the collection. The philological journals are, however, to be found in the library of Western Reserve university, which makes their absence here less serious. In Italian dialect dictionaries, Old French, Old and Middle High German, Anglo-Saxon, Middle English, Middle Dutch, Celtic and Provençal, and the Icelandic sagas, the material is very full.

Lastly, it should be noticed that for catalogs of manuscripts in European and Oriental libraries, the White collection ranks among the first three or four of the United States.

While no printed lists are in existence, desired books can be found readily, and loans will gladly be made. Following the usual practice governing inter-library loans, applications should be made, if possible through the library of the institution with which the applicant is connected, or through the public library at which he is a borrower; those not in a position to comply with this requirement should state their case. The period for which books are loaned is ordinarily two weeks, with the privilege of renewal for two weeks more; but other arrangements may be made if need warrants. All communications should be sent to the Librarian, Public library, Cleveland, Ohio.

Who am I that I demand that my life shall be without difficulties and pains and troubles? Is anybody's? I do not claim that my toothache is worse than any other man's toothache just because it is mine or because it happens to be affecting a different tooth. Why, then, should I think my troubles worse than his merely because they are mine or happen to be hurting me in a different place?

Public Library of Cincinnati Lecture course

In an attempt to interest the factory girl by means of a series of illustrated talks, in some "best books," the Public library of Cincinnati four years ago discovered that a lecture course of a different sort was what was really needed. For after a number of factory managers had agreed to post announcements of the lectures on their time clocks and tickets had been left with them for distribution, it was found on the night of the first talk, that instead of the girls it was their elders who appeared and that the men workers had come with their wives. This being the case, the strictly "book" idea was abandoned and the second series of 12 lectures made to embrace a variety of subjects: literature, art, history, travel and sociology; illustrated for the most part with lantern slides.

The course proved so popular that by the next year it was enlarged to 20 lectures, and besides the regular tickets—issued because of the limited seating capacity—a number of season tickets were provided for the regular patrons, some of whom have not missed a lecture in two years.

The fourth series of the Public library lectures came to a close on Wednesday evening, April 11, with the annual entertainment given in honor of the lecturers. On this occasion, main hall became for once, "Handy's opera house," (its original but never fulfilled ambition), a stage was set up at one end and at nine o'clock, after closing time, members of the staff presented scenes from the old play "Fashion."

The lectures this season began October 26, 1916, and ended April 5, 1917, and were as usual 20 in number. The total attendance was 3,028, an average of 150 for each lecture. It would be an easy thing to bring the attendance up to three hundred or more but this dare not be attempted because of the inadequate seating capacity of the lecture room. No effort, therefore, is made to advertise the course outside the main library, the tickets being distributed from the charging, receiving and registration desks. A lim-

ited number of season tickets were again issued.

The library lecture public, composed mainly of people of middle age, distinctly favors travel, but cultural subjects are gradually becoming more popular, perhaps because they have this year been presented in such an attractive manner.

The lecture course was in charge of Miss Sophie M. Collman, chief of the Foreign literature department of the library. L. S.

Elimination of Borrower's Card

The Public library of Sioux City, Iowa, and of one or two other places, have disposed of the reader's card in their charging system. Miss Drake, the librarian of Sioux City, states:

There are drawbacks to this system, but after using it for two years we find it a saving of time and money. The object in doing away with it was to allow the library assistant more time to help the patrons.

We reckoned the cost of the supply of readers' cards, the salary of the person filling out the cards, the constant filing and refiling of the cards, the space required for this record, as well as the annoyance when the cards that were brought in during the day had not been filed, and we found that we were not making the best use of the money thus spent.

The regular application card is so arranged as to give space at one end for the reader's name, number and address. These application cards are arranged alphabetically in the file where the reader's card used to be kept. When a book is charged, the reader's name is looked up, his number found and the date stamped on the date slip in the book. There is no chance of loss of the card as they are never removed, except to change an address or to be withdrawn from use. When an overdue book is returned, if the fine is paid before the book is discharged, "Pd." is penciled under the date and erased when the book card is returned to the book pocket. If the fine is not paid when the book is discharged, the reader's number and amount of fine is penciled on a small slip of paper and dropped in a small box for the purpose. The next morning the name is looked up and the amount of fine is penciled on the application blank in the file.

Bird House Exhibit

Wrens roasted in tin can bungalows or impaled on jagged edges; babies drowned in undrained bird-houses or smothered in unventilated ones, are some of the casualties which will be prevented in Minneapolis bird-land this year; because the boys and girls who took part in the bird house exhibit of the library have been studying housing problems and building codes for birds.

Saturday, April 14, was designated Bird-house day by the library. At 10 o'clock in the morning, school children bearing bird houses assembled in Loring Park, which is in the heart of the city, and marched by schools to the Public library, half a mile away. The procession was led by the Working Boys' band, an organization which is mostly made up of newsboys.

The parade was picturesque and colorful. Tiny wren cottages were carried in hand, blue bird houses were balanced on head, and martin apartments were sometimes borne tandem by two boys. There were 1,200 children in the parade and several school principals and teachers.

As the library does not hold so many children at once, they were taken to a neighboring church, where they heard stories while they waited to be taken to the library in relays. At the library a committee from the Audubon club judged the bird houses and selected the four best from each of the following classes, to be placed on exhibition in the main children's room: 1. Wren house; 2. Blue bird house; 3. Flicker house; 4. Martin house; 5. Robin shelter; 6. Feeding station; 7. Fountain.

On the fourth floor of the library, bird talks with lantern slides were given continuously, so that a large number of children could be accommodated. The bird houses showed such excellence of workmanship and such knowledge of the habits of birds that the exhibit was a profitable one. The splendid co-operation of the schools and different organizations contributed in no small measure to the success of Bird-house day.

IDA MAY FERGUSON,
Children's librarian.

What Are Special Collections?

At a recent meeting of the Chicago library club Mr C. B. Roden reported for the Committee on Special collections in Chicago libraries and gave the following interesting discussion of special collections:

The term "special collection" has been rather loosely applied and seems to have four separate meanings.

In its narrowest sense a special collection is a collection of books shelved and cataloged separately from the rest of the library. A wider and more common definition embraces "all collections bearing special names having been purchased from a special funds or *en bloc*." Still more comprehensive is that of collections purchased *en bloc* but not kept together, and, finally, a collection may be considered special if it is of unusual importance either in comparison with the other subjects in the same library, or with similar collections elsewhere.

The last definition is the most inclusive and is practically synonymous with the term "special subjects," which some libraries prefer to use in describing their particular resources.

In compiling a census of special collections in Chicago libraries, which is the task before this committee, it will be inadvisable to proceed upon any basis short of this broad conception of the term. To gather together the data regarding the specially named or specially shelved collections would be no serious task. Indeed, this information is already in print in various places. But this would by no means afford an adequate survey of all the special subjects in which Chicago libraries are strong enough to be of value.

It will therefore be the task of this committee to collect, digest, arrange and carefully index all information that can possibly be secured regarding any and all libraries, large and small, open to the student; to include club and society libraries so far as they fall within that category, and to render as complete as possible an answer to the question: What are the resources of Chicago libraries upon any given subject?

Such an undertaking will require much

time and care and may well tax all the bibliographical experience and skill of the committee. But only upon these lines will it be worth doing, or worthy of the Chicago library club.

Books

The Booklover and His Books, By Harry Lyman Koopman, Litt D. Boston: The Boston Book Company. 1917. x, 185 pp. 8°. \$2.

Ignorance of the book beautiful and neglect of its encouragement and exploitation are occasionally charged against librarians by some of the more bibliolatrous brethren when the latter are in the full tide of an "atrabilious mood." Such charges, of course, have little real foundation in fact. They are commonly induced by a sporadic lapse of judgment or unintelligent dogmatism uttered by some unfortunate who has failed to absorb the finer elements of his environment. In a charming series of essays under the title of "The booklover and his books," Dr Koopman of Brown university refutes by example the unjust accusations brought against us and he has thereby placed us all heavily in his debt. His 24 essays on bookish and typographical themes are the fruits of an intensive use of the all too rare leisure in the life of an active university librarian, and they should be an inspiration to his fellows of the craft.

Of varying length, Dr Koopman's chapters deal with many different phases of the book and the art of the printer, including design, physical make up, and ornamentation. Among other especially attractive chapters are those on: "Print as an interpreter of meaning," "Favorite book sizes," "The background of the book," "Types and eyes," "Books as a librarian would like them," "The value of reading," and "Lest we forget the few great books." On all these themes the author has wise and stimulating things to say and sets forth sound conclusions based on thoughtful studies of his material. Nor is the salt of humor lacking from his pages, for the essay entitled "perversities of type" is an anthology of merry instances of the riotous results of misplaced or missing letters. The ideals and purposes of all who have to do with

the printed book are described with lucidity and charm, and when criticism is made it is constructive and thoroughly informed. The book should be listed for required reading in all library schools and every library should have at least one copy reserved for staff reading.

Typographically the volume is a delight and a model. Its fine paper, beautiful Bodoni type, studied margins, and perfect octavo page are physical elements giving it that "outward manifestation of its indwelling spirit" which Dr Koopman rightly regards as a canonical requirement of the perfect book.

W. N. C. C.

An Interesting New Periodical

A new publication, founded by the Carnegie endowment for international peace, has been started for the inter-exchange of ideas between the peoples of the Western hemisphere. The magazine is to be called *Inter-America* and is to be published by Doubleday, Page & Co. The first number is printed in Spanish and is made up of articles selected from the contemporary periodical literature of the United States and translated into Spanish for distribution in the countries where Spanish is the language of the people. The next number will contain articles selected from the periodical literature of the countries in which Spanish or Portuguese is generally spoken and translated into English for circulation in the United States.

In view of the increased interest in the United States concerning other Republics of America, the *Inter-America* will doubtless be received with interest since the free interchange of ideas between the continents has been hindered by the diversity of language.

The first number contains the following:

The higher patriotism, John Grier Hibben, *The North American Review*.

Labor and capital—partners, John D. Rockefeller, Jr., *The Atlantic Monthly*.

Is selection or mutation the more important agency in evolution? William E. Castle, *The Scientific Monthly*.

What is national spirit? James Harvey Robinson, *The Century Magazine*.

The citizen, James Francis Dwyer, *Collier's Weekly*.

A proposal for Pan American monetary unit, E. W. Kemmerer, *The Political Science Quarterly*.

Lincoln in 1917, Herbert Croly, *The New Republic*.

Religion and art, Vernon Lee, *The North American Review*.

The Panama canal and the business problems connected with it, George W. Goethals, *The Economic World*.

Books for Busy Children

At a health exhibit held in North Adams, Mass., recently Miss Lamphier, a teacher of handicraft at the North Adams normal school, spoke on "Healthful occupations in the home." To an audience of about 100 people she demonstrated the possibility of keeping little people busy and taking enjoyment in their work and also showed what might be done for child invalids. She asked the public library to co-operate with her in compiling a list of helpful books and to loan the books for the meeting. After her talk she described the books and distributed the lists. The list is given below in hopes that it may be useful to some other library. The titles starred form a graded collection suitable for children of different ages.

Adams	Harper's indoor book for boys.
—	Toy making at home.
Bailey	Boys' make at home things.
—	Girls' make at home things.
*Beard	Jolly book of boxcraft.
*Brigham	Box furniture.
*Buxton	Paper and cardboard construction.
*Canfield	What shall we do now?
Foster	Something to do, boys.
—	Something to do, girls.
Grubb	When mother lets us make gifts.
Hall	Handy boy.
—	Home-made toys for boys and girls.
*Johnston	Home occupations for boys and girls.
Moore	Manual training toys.
*Morgan	How to dress a doll.
Pierce	Woodwork for little folks.
Ralston	When mother lets us sew.
Rich	When mother lets us make paper box furniture.
	When mother lets us make toys.
Sage	Occupations for little fingers.
Verrill	Boy collector's handbook.
Walker	Occupations in string work.

MABLE TEMPLE,
Librarian.

Library Meetings

Chicago—The Chicago library club was guest of the library of the People's Gas Company for the last meeting of the season. Oscar E. Norman was a most delightful host and the meeting was one of the pleasantest held during the year.

The program was made up, largely, of reports connected with the closing of the annual record. The reports, both of the secretary and treasurer, showed the club in a prosperous condition and a review of the programs of the year, showed a wide extension of interest. Dr Carlton, Mr Roden and Dr Andrews reported progress in the matter of a union list of special collections and periodical literature in the Chicago libraries.

A resolution was passed pledging the club to the collection and distribution of literature for the soldiers in camp, in and around Chicago.

Mr Utley announced the departure of D. Ashley Hooker from Chicago and expressed the good wishes for the club for Mr Hooker in his new duties.

Miss Ahern told a story of the library career of a timid young girl whom she had met at the Northwestern university library many years ago, tracing her development through library school, library positions, and the final position of director of the training class of the Chicago public library and the president of the Chicago library club. In view of Miss Smith's plan to leave library work and go to California, Miss Ahern offered the following resolution, which was adopted by a spontaneous rising vote:

Resolved, that the Chicago library club hears with regret of the contemplated removal of Miss Faith E. Smith from its vicinity and that, as a unit, the club extends its sincere good wishes for her health, happiness and prosperity wherever her future lot be cast.

The following officers were elected: President, John F. Lyons, Virginia library; first vice-president, Charlotte H. Foye, John Crerar library; second vice-president, Earl N. Manchester, Harper library, University of Chicago; secretary, Janet M. Greene, Chicago public library; treasurer, Fanny A. Noyes, Newberry library.

The evening program closed by a recital of stories for grown-ups, by members of the Chicago public library staff.

District of Columbia—The District of Columbia library association held its April meeting on Monday evening, April 9.

The evening was given over to an informal reception to the members of the library schools of Albany and Syracuse, who were making their Spring visit to the libraries of Washington. The guests were received by the president, Mr W. A. Slade, the secretary, Miss Alice C. Atwood, and Mr H. H. B. Meyer, ex-president of the association.

The program of the evening consisted of moving pictures showing some of the more interesting features of government activities. Five reels were shown, Yosemite Park; Testing of materials and apparatus at the Bureau of standards; Shad culture under the auspices of the Bureau of fisheries; Fighting forest fires, by the Forest service, and Mine rescue work as carried on by the Bureau of mines.

Between the third and fourth reels intermission was declared and refreshments served. It was a very pleasant and profitable evening.

Alice C. Atwood,
Secretary.

Iowa—The spring district meetings of the Iowa library association for 1917 were held on April 24, 25 and 26, at Storm Lake, Ames and Cedar Rapids, and on May 1, 3 and 4 at Dubuque, Fairfield and Corning.

There were 157 librarians and 51 trustees present making a total of 208 in attendance, representing 79 libraries. This is a slight increase over 1916. Had the weather and roads been good, making automobile traveling possible, the attendance in every district would have been much larger.

The subjects considered this year were "Publicity inside and outside the library and results achieved," "Library instruction in grade and high schools," "The distribution of books to schools,"

and "New and useful books" especially for the small libraries.

The programs are always informal partaking of the character of round tables and all present participate freely in the discussion of all questions. New work undertaken during the year and the problems and difficulties of individual librarians also receive much attention.

These meetings are especially helpful to the small libraries whose librarians and trustees are often unable to attend the state meetings, and because the programs of those meetings necessarily deal with the problems of the larger libraries.

Iowa is now divided into six districts, three in the east and three in the west, but with the increase in the number of libraries an addition to the number of districts becomes necessary that a meeting may be accessible every year to every library in the state.

Miss Ione Armstrong, president of the Library association and Miss Robinson, secretary of the Library commission, were present at all of the meetings, but a chairman in each district assisted in arranging the program and presided at the meeting.

Mississippi—The second annual meeting of the Mississippi library association was held in Columbus, May 3-4, in connection with the State teachers' association. There were a goodly number of librarians present, evidence of a growing interest in the work. Through courtesy of the A. L. A., Carl H. Milam of Birmingham, Ala., was present. He spoke delightfully, Thursday evening, on Library service; a look ahead, after which Miss Culbertson of I. I. & C. library, entertained the visiting librarians at an informal reception.

Friday morning's session was devoted to the usual business. Mrs Timberlake was unable to be present. Her instructive paper on Club women's part in library extension was read by the secretary. Mr Milam gave another delightful talk and the round table conducted by Miss Culbertson was most interesting. Mr Davis, president of the association, read the proposed library law, which met with the

hearty approval of all present and he was urged by the association to use every means to get the law passed.

Several fine exhibits added to the interest.

The officers for the coming year are: President, Whitman Davis, Agricultural college; vice president, Mrs Pearl Travis, Hattiesburg; secretary, Miss Lucy Heard, West Point; treasurer, Miss Beulah Culbertson, Columbus.

LUCY HEARD,
Secretary.

New York—At the March meeting of the New York library club, Standardization in libraries and certification of assistants, was the subject under discussion.

The first speaker was R. R. Bowker, editor of *Library Journal*. Mr Bowker said, that the first difficulty was the number of classes of libraries to be considered. The A. L. A. committee was trying to formulate standards for different types of libraries, but neither in libraries nor in service could standardization be carried to the last degree. Standardization in New York and Brooklyn systems is handicapped by restrictions set by the Board of estimate and apportionment. The details in a comparison of grades and salaries, showed a wide difference.

Mr Bowker said certificates from library schools were the best guides to chief librarians in the appointment of assistants, but thought that the system of certification should be extended to include assistants who had not had library school training, but whose education and ability warrant recognition.

Mrs M. C. Thomas of the Bureau of personal service, in speaking of standardization, pointed out that specifications would have to be drawn up indicating proper titles, qualifications and the exact conditions to be met, before promotion from one grade to another. There should be adequate training for each position and increases should depend upon carefully kept records. Mrs Thomas pointed out that the library salaries are not in line with those in other branches of the city service.

A. S. Root, principal of the Library school of the New York public library,

spoke of the standardization of libraries in Ohio, where the use of the term includes the establishment of standards for admission to library service, the establishment of standards as to hours of service and duties to be performed, length of probationary period, promotions within the established grades of library service, as to the wage which shall be paid, the age at which active work shall cease and, finally, standards as to the provision of a pension, when the period of active service is over.

Other lines of standards, suggested from the analogies of other vocations, refer to sanitary conditions of the libraries' work rooms, comforts and conveniences, including rest rooms, lunch rooms, emergency hospitals and the like, length of time during which work requiring a standing position should be permitted, insurance against illness or accident.

Mr Root pointed out that standardization of salaries and certification are only a small part of the whole general problem of standardization.

New York—The May meeting of the New York library club was held in the auditorium of the New York botanical garden, May 10, 1917. Dr Hill presided and there were about 250 members and guests present.

LeRoy Jeffers, librarian, American Alpine club, gave a lecture on Mountaineering in North America. This was illustrated by several hundred beautifully colored slides. The first shown were some remarkable photographs of surf off the Massachusetts coast, but the larger number were of mountains and lakes in the western part of the continent. Mr Jeffers' lecture was followed by the business meeting at which nine new members were elected.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, H. M. Lydenberg; vice-president, Harriet B. Prescott; secretary, Eleanor Roper; treasurer, Ralph M. Dunbar.

Members of the council to serve four years: E. H. Anderson, Isabella M. Coe, Theresa Hitchler, Jessie F. Lane.

After refreshments were served, the party was divided into groups and escorted through the Botanical gardens by members of the staff of the New York botanical society.

ELEANOR H. FRICK,
Secretary.

North Carolina—The annual meeting of the North Carolina library association, held in Salisbury April 24-25, was marked with its usual enthusiasm and spirit. The program was planned to include the entire field of library activities in the state, and many problems were discussed which would meet the most practical questions of library administration.

The first session convened at 3 o'clock and was devoted to business. Miss Minnie W. Leatherman, secretary of the library commission, spoke on the progress of the library campaign during the past year. Several new libraries have been organized and the prospects are bright for a library in every North Carolina town by 1920. Following this session the association was given a delightful automobile ride over the town and shown many points of interest by the Chamber of Commerce.

A welcoming address by the mayor of Salisbury and a musical program featured the second session held in the Community building on Tuesday evening.

Miss Mary B. Palmer, president of the association, responded to the welcoming address of Mayor Woodson. Mrs T. S. Lucas, Society Hill, S. C., who is a most delightful story teller, delighted the audience with her stories and the audience also heard Mr George F. Bowerman of the Public library, Washington, D. C. This distinguished speaker was heard with large interest, not only by the librarians who were keenly alive to the topics he discussed but by the visitors as well, for his subject "The library in small and medium sized towns" was one in which every one was interested. He spoke of the library from many angles, especially from the viewpoint of the general public and the possibilities to the community.

Wednesday morning was devoted to round table discussions. A few of the topics discussed were "Effect of the Eu-

ropean war on college libraries," "News from college librarians," "How can the college library make itself felt in the life of the state," "Method of stimulating student interest in cultural reading," "Library legislation in North Carolina in 1917," "County traveling libraries," "Boys and girls reading," "What librarians read."

At noon the librarians were given a delightful luncheon by the club women of Salisbury at the Community building.

The feature of the afternoon session was a book survey which proved so interesting that every one present had a desire to read the book discussed if they had not already done so.

Following this was the reports of various committees and election of the following officers:

President, Mrs A. F. Griggs, Durham public library; vice-presidents, Mrs Mary O. Linton, Salisbury public library, and Miss Cornelia Shaw, Davidson college; secretary, Miss Carrie L. Broughton, State library, Raleigh; treasurer, Miss Eva Malone, Trinity college, Durham.

CARRIE L. BROUGHTON,
Secretary.

N. E. A. Program **Librarians' round-table**

The meeting will be held in Portland, Ore., in the week of July 7-14.

Chairman, Miss Louise Smith, librarian, Lincoln high school, Seattle.

The program will be in the hands of experienced workers and librarians of all kinds are asked to contribute to the discussions. The program is as follows:

The librarian in the high school—her status, qualifications, salary, and defined duties. J. A. Churchill, State superintendent of schools, Salem, Oregon.

Discussion:

Care of clippings, pamphlets, etc. Ella J. Caughey, librarian, Broadway high school, Seattle, Wash.

Discussion:

Student committees in the high school library. Marion Lovis, librarian, Stadium high school, Tacoma, Wash.

Discussion:

Question box. Harret A. Wood, school librarian, Portland, Oregon.

MARY C. RICHARDSON.

A. L. A. Program

The program for the entertainment of the library visitors to Louisville, arranged by the local committee, includes the following:

At the opening session, Thursday, June 21, at 8 p. m., there will be short addresses of welcome by Gov. A. O. Stanley of Kentucky, and Mayor John H. Buschemeyer of Louisville. Gen. Bennett H. Young, chairman.

These will be followed by an informal reception given at the Seelbach auditorium.

On Friday afternoon, a tea will be served by the Louisville Woman's club. Mrs H. W. Blanc, chairman.

On Sunday morning at 11 o'clock at the First Christian church, the Rev Edward L. Powel, D. D., will deliver a sermon, subject, Education and morals.

At 4 p. m. Sunday, at Macauley's theatre, with the Rev. Charles R. Hemphill, D. D., chairman, a sacred concert will be given by the Louisville male chorus and soloists.

On Monday afternoon, June 25, an automobile ride around the city and through the beautiful parks will be given.

On June 26, at Macauley's theatre, the visitors will have the privilege of hearing local authors and musicians. The following have consented to appear on the program:

Henry Watterson, Cale Young Rice, O. L. Reid, Annie Fellows Johnston, Ellen Churchill Semple, Eleanor Mercein Kelly, Alice Hegan Rice, Reuben P. Halleck, George Lee Burton, Credo Harris, Frances C. Macauley, Abbie Carter Goodloe, George Madden Martin, Otto A. Rothert and others.

An informal reception will follow.

The Louisville Artists league will have an exhibit in the Art room of the main building during the week.

The speakers to be heard at the general sessions, in addition to those already named, include the following:

Dr Shailer Mathews, University of Illinois, June 21—Address.

C. R. Dooley, education director, Westinghouse Electric Co., Pittsburgh—Training men during business hours.

Dr W. T. Swingle, U. S. department of agriculture—Chinese books and libraries.

Joseph F. Daniels, Riverside, Cal.—The county free library service as operated at Riverside.

P. L. Winsor, committee report—Standardization of libraries and certification of librarians.

The departmental sessions will hold their stated meetings with programs prepared to suit the occasion. Some of the noted speakers to appear in these sessions are the following:

Dr H. E. Horton, the American Steel and Wire Company, Chicago—Agricultural research.

Mrs Louise M. Dunn, supervisor of clubs, Cleveland—Reading of the adolescent girl.

Dr E. C. Richardson, librarian, Princeton university—The return of co-operative indexing.

George H. Carter, chairman, Congressional committee on printing—Address.

Among the speakers in the affiliated associations are the following:

Prof W. D. Howe, department of English, Indiana university—Library activities in the educational program of the state.

John A. Lowe, Massachusetts—The relation of the library commissions to the large libraries of the state.

Hon William M. Bullitt, Louisville—Government boards.

The library school dinners will be held on Saturday evening, June 23.

The regular traveling parties will be conducted by the regional directors, as usual.

A small group willing to spend a little longer time on the journey will go over the scenic route, the Monon. Anyone choosing to do so is welcome to join the party. The cost of tickets will be the same as the other.

The H. R. Huntting Co. has produced an expansive binder in which to file magazines from month to month, until ready for binding. It can be used, also, for music pamphlets and newspapers of all kinds or for sending out loan collections of pictures. The portfolio is so arranged expansively that it will securely hold one magazine, or half a dozen. The backs of the binder slide one on the other, being tied with tapes to regulate the size of the binder.

Libraries and Advertising

An interesting meeting was that held by the Advertising association of Chicago and librarians throughout the Middle west, at the Hotel La Salle, Friday, May 25.

The need for library advertising and publicity, was presented by Secretary George B. Utley of the A. L. A. and What the American library association has already accomplished, was presented by W. H. Kerr, librarian of the Kansas normal school and chairman of the A. L. A. publicity committee. Charles E. Rush, librarian of the Public library of Des Moines, gave a very direct talk on what had been done to arouse interest in that library within the last year, which was full of good suggestions. Purd B. Wright of Kansas City told the story of arousing interest in his library and showed some very beautiful as well as suggestive posters prepared for him by local artists who appreciated what the library had done for them.

The views of the advertising men had decidedly more vim in their presentation, though the statements concerning library service were not nearly so accurate nor the comprehension of the subject so evident, but there was no mistaking the fact that they talked in a more impressive fashion than did the library speakers.

"Some suggestions from an itinerant patron," by John B. Ratto, Chautauquan tourist, told of various failures and successes of library service as he viewed them going about the country. F. W. Ralston of the Rankin Advertising Agency of Chicago, said the people did not use the library because they did not understand it. He advocated giving the information to the public by paid advertisements concerning library service.

Arnold Joerns in his "An analysis of advertising appeals" showed how so young a man came to be president of a successful advertising company. It was decidedly the best thing of the meeting. He said all the appeals made by advertising men to sell articles could be used to interest persons in the public libraries.

Direct advertising, by Homer Buckley, president of Buckley, Dement and Com-

pany, Chicago, said that if the public library had something it wished to dispose of, there was no reason why it should not use business methods to advertise it direct to its patrons.

Miss Mary Eileen Ahern, being called on, said that there was evident need for the spread of information by some means, judging by the misapprehension of even these splendid business men. The chairman of the meeting was under the impression that most libraries in towns of 10,000 or 15,000, closed at 7:30 in the evening and many of them were open only two days a week; that the manners and manner of the librarians were not inviting. Miss Ahern urged that all combine to bring a fuller realization to both the public and library workers, that the purpose of the library is the accumulation and distribution of information, education and inspiration; that if it does not do this, it is an instrument of misappropriation of funds and has absolutely no excuse for existing. She then called attention to the opportunity afforded the library of doing its part in this dreaded period of the war.

At the evening session, Henry E. Legler, librarian of the public library of Chicago, presented Advertising problems of a large city library. He thought this problem hinged, at some angles, on the condition brought about by a large polyglot population. By stereopticon views he showed the living conditions in many parts of Chicago which worked, in a way, against library service.

Too often the library is regarded as a show place for visitors rather than as a dynamic force affecting every interest of the community and capable of fostering the business interests as well as the cultural elements of the people, said Mr. Legler.

In 69 cities of more than 100,000 population, more than 9,000,000 people fail to make use of the library because the resources of the institution are insufficient or because the library fails to make these resources known to the public or possible users thereof.

The advertising methods of the St. Paul public library through the Commercial associations and advertising clubs and other public organizations, as well as library publications were presented by W.

D. Johnston, librarian of the Public library of St. Paul.

There was a large attendance from librarians in the middle west. Mr H. L. Dougherty from Newton, Mass., perhaps farthest away, was present also. It was a most enjoyable and profitable meeting for all concerned.

A large number of business men were present.

Illinois Notes

Sarah R. Line of Syracuse University library school has been appointed librarian of the Public library, Fairbury, Illinois.

The Centralia public library was one of the first libraries to be established after the library law went into effect in Illinois. The library now contains over 7000 v. and the board has decided to reorganize. Miss Marie Hammond has been appointed to take charge of the work.

The new Carnegie library at Sheldon, Illinois, was dedicated April 11. The occasion was also the opening of the new township library.

The Savanna Township library has now two branch library stations, one in one of the suburbs and the other in a new school building.

Why Books Should Be Read

We should read books because:

First, they develop concentration and continuity of thought, which is impossible to acquire in reading any other literature.

Second, complete and exhaustive treatment of any subject can only be found in books. A book is written when the author feels that he has mastered his subject.

Third, authors put their best and most seasoned work in books because of their permanent character.—*W. C. Everett, in the Rotarian for May.*

The Post Office department long ago declared that chain letters are in direct violation of the U. S. postal laws and those who engage in such practice are liable to arrest and imprisonment.

Interesting Things in Print

The Carnegie library of Pittsburg has issued a third supplement to their Debate index, Jan. 1916-March 1917.

The April *Bulletin* of the Russell Sage foundation library, has a selected list of books on social subjects published in 1916.

An attractive list on Shade trees and gardening has been prepared and published by the Public library, Detroit, Mich.

The Public library of Buffalo, N. Y., has issued some timely lists on House, home and garden and Just vegetables and how to grow them.

The New York public library has issued a list of Current periodicals and newspapers, compiled by LeRoy Jeffers. This is on file at the branches of the New York public libraries.

A most appealing two page leaflet, under the title of The public library and patriotism, has been prepared by the Public library of Detroit, Mich., and a copy is placed in each book issued to the public.

A list of Books for the blind has been issued by the Public library of Birmingham, Ala. Most of the books are in American Braille, but some are available in Line and Moon types and in New York point.

The Oregon state library has issued a second "List of books for school libraries of the state of Oregon." This is a new edition of Part 2, Books for high schools, being supplementary to Part 1, Books for elementary schools.

The Alpha Kappa Psi handbook, a manual for Nu chapter, has been prepared by Ralph L. Power, librarian of the College of business administration, Boston. About 100 copies have been reserved for free distribution upon request for the volume.

The April number of the *Branch Library News*, New York public library, has six pages devoted to a list of books on the New York of the novelists. The fine illustrations which adorn the *News*

add pure joy to the usefulness of the publication.

A Gateway to good reading—a list for children, is the title of a little pamphlet compiled by Janet Jerome of the Public library of Denver, Colo. The list has been prepared as a guide for parents, teachers and friends in selecting books for the young folks.

Marcus Skarstedt, librarian of the Augustana college and theological seminary, Rock Island, Illinois, has issued a bibliography of the cataloged books in that library. The volume records by single main entry 19,290 books and includes all volumes that are entered in the card catalog of the library.

An address read before the annual meeting of the N. E. A. department of superintendents, Kansas City, Mo., February 26 to March 3, under the title of Books as tools, by Zora I. Shields, librarian of the Central high school library, Omaha, has been issued as a booklet by the Omaha public library.

A handbook of the Russell Sage foundation library has been prepared by F. W. Jenkins, librarian. It presents a history of the library, scheme of organization, scope of collection, building and equipment, methods and results, and also tells of other collections in New York city which are of interest to social workers.

The Public library of Grand Rapids, Mich., has issued its annual bulletin, No. 11, which contains the title of books cataloged for the main library collection as published in vol. 12 of the monthly *Bulletin*, being the additions from December, 1915, to December, 1916. An author index is given. Books added to the branch libraries are not included.

"Where shall I serve? Army—Navy—Red Cross?" is the title of a little leaflet gotten out by the Public library of Binghamton, N. Y. It contains a list selected from many others, on the subjects of Military art and science, Naval art and science and Red Cross and first aid. The names of two magazines dealing with these subjects, are listed, also.

The Public library of Jacksonville, Fla., has issued a little leaflet under the title of War gardens. It contains a list of the months in which certain vegetables should be planted, books for a vegetable gardener, agricultural books and names of gardening magazines and U. S. agricultural publications. This list is in the hands of the school children of Jacksonville and is being mailed to various people of the city.

The story of the founding of Gary, Ind., has been written by Louis J. Bailey, librarian, as a history department bulletin, to be used in the Gary public schools. Many students of history, geography, industry and education, outside the limits of Gary, have asked for an authorized account of the city's reason for being and the early years of its construction. It is expected that the *Bulletin* will supply the needed information.

A guide to reading for young people under the title of the World of books, has been compiled by Max J. Herzberg, head of the English department of the Central C. & M. T. high school, Newark, N. J. It is the second edition of a list issued in 1913, for the assistance and use of the teachers in the high school. It is arranged alphabetically in classes to agree with the work of the eight terms of the high school. Price, 15c.

The Public library of the District of Columbia has prepared a little slip to put in books as they go into circulation. Report of the results showed a flood of good material. The slip was as follows:

Give the soldiers something to read

The library is receiving donations of reading matter to be forwarded to the boys of the District militia. Will you not help by bringing us books and magazines which you are willing to give to relieve the tedium of camp life? Or let us send.

The Chicago branch of the Woman's peace party has issued a pamphlet entitled *Suggestions for work in war time*, which deals with conservation of food and increase of food supplies, child welfare, Red Cross relief work, defense of labor standards, protection of immi-

grants, prevention of compulsory military service and military training in the schools as a permanent policy, raising the age of soldiers, better pay for soldiers, defense of constitutional rights, war finance and democratic control of war policies.

John B. Kaiser, librarian of the Tacoma public library, is editor of a pamphlet entitled "The mountain," recently issued by the "Justice to the Mountain Committee" of Tacoma, 1917. The pamphlet is a brief which was submitted to the United States Geographic Board at a hearing May 2, 1917, "urging the official removal from America's most sublime mountain of the name Rainier and the perpetuation by official adoption of the original name therefor, in its most appropriate, euphonious and generally accepted form, Tacoma."

The H. W. Wilson Company has published a third edition of the Children's catalog, this one containing 3,500 titles. The volume corresponds with the earlier editions except that a larger number of books are included. The compilation, which was made by Miss Corinne Bacon, was based on 54 selected library lists and bulletins and is arranged under analytical titles and subject. With analytical entries for 700 volume titles, with 63 sources of help, there will be no excuse for any library to buy anything but the best literature for their children's room. The price of the Guide to 3,500 titles, is \$6.

The Public library of Cleveland, usually makes an annual cumulation of the monthly issues of the *Open Shelf*. This year they have substituted a number of slips, folders and leaflets, each one containing a limited selection from the best books in some one class added to the library during the year. The editor states that "intrinsic worth, plus interest and actual popularity among our readers, determined our selection." There were 19 different lists annotated with titles ranging from 7 to 50. Especially good ones were Modern verse with quotations, Books about books, Books about the war, Modern plays and Schools of today and tomorrow.

Ginn & Company, publishers, have undertaken to supply catalog cards for the books entered on their lists for library use. These catalog cards are constructed according to L. C. rules, for reading and reference purposes and will be furnished to cover subject classification and authors up to four cards. Any number of cards above four may be purchased for one-half cent each.

While the plan is, strictly speaking, advertising, the cards can but be of genuine serviceability to librarians.

Margaret L. Bateman, in charge of the work, will appreciate suggestions and samples will be sent on application.

American fiction, past and present—a guide for students and general readers, has been compiled by Paul Sidwell and Harry Houston Peckham, instructors in English at the Purdue university, LaFayette, Indiana. The list attempts to name and characterize all important novelists and short story writers from the beginning of American prose fiction to the present time. It includes the names of 122 authors and titles of 679 works, and is divided into three parts: The beginning to 1870, 1870 to 1900 and 1900 to present time. Explanatory notes follow each author. Only the principal works of each author are listed. A special price of 20c is made for this booklet, to librarians and schools ordering in quantities.

A recent number in the *Study Outline Series*, American art, issued by the H. W. Wilson Company, has been prepared by Anna L. Guthrie. "This outline concerns itself with artists rather than schools of art, taking up those whose work is best known according to a consensus of opinion found in books and periodicals." The artists are grouped under periods and, somewhat, under the character of the work, as follows: Painting in the colonies; Revolutionary period; Early landscape school; Figure and portrait painting; Landscape painting; Mural painting; American sculpture. Whistler, LaFarge, Sargent, Saint-Gaudens, each has a chapter devoted to references on his work.

A quarterly list of New technical and industrial books, chosen and annotated for general libraries by Donald Hendry, in charge of the Applied Science reference department, Pratt institute, Boston, is published by the H. W. Wilson Company. Its aim is to serve as a buying list for general libraries and it is sold in quantities with library imprint for distribution as a reading list for library users. In view of the difficulties which libraries, which do not specialize in technical literature, have in selecting technical books, the quarterly lists ought to meet with great favor.

The technical department of the Pratt institute, under Mr. Hendry's knowledge and experience is a competent guide in the matter of selecting, and the libraries which need this sort of literature, will be repaid by availing themselves of the offer of the quarterly list.

A list of Outdoor books has been published by the A. C. McClurg Co., including Wayside flowers of summer, Keeler; The joyous art of gardening, Duncan; Studies in gardening, Clutton-Brock; The origin and evolution of life, Osborn; Our early wild flowers, Keeler; Our garden flowers, Keeler; Our native trees, Keeler; Our Northern shrubs and how to identify them, Keeler, and others.

The following quotation from the report of the librarian of the Public library, Binghamton, N. Y., rings true on the mission of the library:

The measure of the value of a public library is not in the number of books on its shelves nor even in the volume of its circulation. The test is, what is the library's contribution to the life and progress, to the thinking and doing, to the work and the play of the community. The library should be not an annex to, but one of the vital forces in civic life. It is an essential part of our educational system but its parish is far wider than that of the public schools. It includes the home, the factory, the office, the church, youth and age, public officials, scholar and inventor. Nothing which concerns humanity is alien to the library.

Gentlemen: In your solicitousness for democracy in Europe don't forget democracy in America.—Hiram Johnson, U. S. senator from California.

Library Schools**Carnegie library of Atlanta**

Miss Charlotte Templeton, secretary of the Nebraska public library commission, gave two lectures to the school on April 12 and 13 on Libraries in state institutions and Commission work. The students, library staff and local librarians met Miss Templeton at tea in the class room on the afternoon of April 12.

Miss Josephine Rathbone, vice-director of the Pratt institute school of library science, visited the school on April 30 and May 1, giving two lectures, one on Fiction and another on the Librarian's care of herself.

William H. Brett, librarian of the Cleveland public library, lectured to the school on May 9 and 10. Mr. Brett gave one lecture on library legislation and two lectures on the work of the Cleveland library, illustrated with slides showing the work of the main library and its branches.

Helen Brewer, '13, has been elected assistant librarian of the Savannah public library.

Margaret Jemison, '13, has been appointed librarian of the new Carnegie library being built in Anniston, Alabama.

TOMMIE DORA BARKER,
Director.

Carnegie library school, Pittsburgh

Miss Corinne Bacon of the H. W. Wilson Company lectured, April 23 on Biography and John Masfield.

April 26, Miss Alice S. Tyler, director of the Western Reserve library school, spoke on The standardization of library service.

A course of lectures on biography was given, April 27-May 1, by Elisabeth Knapp, chief of the children's department, Detroit public library.

Frederick W. Jenkins, librarian of the Russell Sage foundation library, lectured May 3-4 on The library and delinquency and The Library and recreation.

Illustration: shall it record fact or stir imagination, was the general subject of three lectures given by Troy Kinney of New York City, May 14 and 15.

Miss Josephine Rathbone, vice-director of Pratt institute library school, spoke May 14 on The achievement of health.

Alumnae

Florence R. Broderick, '15-17, has resigned her position as assistant in the children's department of the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh to become assistant in the reference department of the Public library, Denver, Colo.

Elizabeth H. Dexter, special student, '12-13, formerly children's librarian in the New York public library, has been appointed children's librarian of the East Liberty branch of the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh.

Avis F. Meigs, '15-16, has been made assistant in the Carnegie library school.

Sara Sheerin, '10-11, was married May 4 in Indianapolis, Ind., to Lawrence Durborow. At home cards announce Beach Lawn, Culver, Ind., after July 1.

The Carnegie library school of Pittsburgh, Pa., will offer a one year's course in school library work, beginning September 27, 1917. The object of the course is to train for librarianship in elementary, high and normal school libraries, and upon a satisfactory completion of the course, certificates will be issued.

Applicants to the school must be graduates of universities or colleges of recognized high standard whose references are satisfactory, or must hold certificates from accredited library schools. These two classes of applicants will be admitted to the school without examination. The third class of applicants must have educational qualifications entitling them to take the entrance examinations of the school in literature, history, general information and two languages, one of which must be modern.

For further particulars, address The Principal, Carnegie Library School, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Los Angeles public library

The regular weekly practice work was suspended in April so that students could devote their entire time to the heavy work incident to the open courses and the closing months of school. Final examinations occupied the last week in May, and on June 4, will begin the month of practice work which concludes the school year.

There were 18 librarians and assistants from libraries near Los Angeles, and 20

brary staff, who attended one or more of the open courses given in April and May.

One of the most enjoyable features of the Spring work was the course of 10 lectures on story-telling and children's literature given by Mrs Thorne-Thomsen. Other special lecturers in April and May were:

Albert Shiels, superintendent of the Los Angeles public schools, Qualifications of the high school librarian.

Mrs Marriette G. Mackey, dean of women, University of Southern California, The interrelation of types of literature.

Althea Warren, librarian of the San Diego public library, Reorganization of the San Diego library.

Zaidee Brown, librarian of the Long Beach public library, The right book for each reader.

The preparation of an exhibit of library methods and devices which will be displayed during the meeting of the California library association at Hollywood in June has been an interesting special activity of April and May. One student committee has been working on the collection and care of inexpensive pamphlet material; another, on publicity methods; and a third, on library economy publications. Mimeographed reading lists prepared for distribution will accompany each exhibit.

New York public library

With the appointment of a permanent principal, Ernest J. Reece, and with the renewal of the grant from the Carnegie Corporation, the future of the school is assured and both faculty and students are looking forward with anticipation to the coming school year.

Examinations for admission to the school will be held on Saturday, June 9, in the New York public library. These examinations will be taken in some 35 other places under the direction of local libraries.

Special lectures been the following:

Junior lectures:

Twentieth century librarianship, Miss Lutie E. Stearns.

Six lectures on library buildings, William R. Eastman.

Creating interest in public libraries, Miss Alice S. Tyler.

Library legislation, William R. Eastman.
Libraries and Americanization, John Foster Carr.

Two lectures on publishers, Miss Margaret Jackson.

Early A. L. A. recollections, Miss Caroline M. Hewins.

The pioneers of the American library association, R. R. Bowker.

Senior lectures:

The organization of a librarian's office, Robert R. Finster.

Two lectures on library finances, Miss Beatrice Winsor.

Reference books in philosophy and religion, C. H. A. Bjerregaard.

Two lectures on commission work, Miss Alice S. Tyler.

Reference books in the field of documents, Miss Adelaide R. Hasse.

Office appliances and equipment, H. J. Grumpelt.

How to make a library successful, Miss Sarah B. Askew.

Helps in the study of rare books, George Watson Cole.

Problems of a theological library, Miss Julia Pettee.

The adjustment of library school ideals to conditions found in long established libraries, Miss Corinne Bacon.

Reference books in the field of applied science, Miss Eleanor H. Frick.

Problems of a business library, Miss Marian R. Glenn.

How to continue library school training after graduation, J. I. Wyer, jr.

Reference books in the fine arts, Miss Susan A. Hutchinson.

The librarian's obligation to her profession, Miss June Richardson Donnelly.

The spring visits to local libraries are now being made by the members of the junior class. Libraries thus far visited are those of Columbia university, Dramatic museum, School of journalism, Union Theological seminary, the Children's museum of Brooklyn, Brooklyn institute, the Russell Sage Foundation, Municipal reference, Mercantile and Society libraries.

On April 26, the junior class visited the Baker and Taylor Company and was shown through their entire stock, after which they listened to a talk by Mr Parker on The best way in which to order books. After the lecture tea was served to the class at the Aldine club, through the courtesy of Miss Kelso.

On May 5, through the courtesy of The H. W. Wilson Company of White Plains, the juniors were given an opportunity to inspect the plant of that bibliographical printing house. Talks were given by the Misses Elliott, Bacon, Jack-

son and Van Valkenburgh, and by Mr Wilson. Afterwards Mr Wilson entertained the class at luncheon at the White Plains club.

The seniors, through the courtesy of Miss Belle da Costa Greene, the librarian, spent a delightful afternoon in the Morgan library on May 2, seeing its treasures of manuscripts and early printed books.

Teas have been held in honor of Ernest J. Reece, the new principal, William R. Eastman, Miss Caroline M. Hewins and Miss June Richardson Donnelly.

On April 12, the "at home" of the Alumni association was held at the school; the monthly meeting for May was held at the residence of Miss Sutliff.

Jessie F. Brainerd, '13, has been appointed to a position in the reference department of the Newark free public library.

Azalea Clizbee, '15, has been engaged to catalog the valuable private library of W. L. Clements of Bay City, Mich. She will begin her work on October 1.

Elizabeth L. Baldwin, '13, has been appointed to a position in connection with the National League for Women's Service.

Edith J. R. Hawley, '15, has gone to France in the service of the American relief association.

Mary Ethel Clarke, '16, was married at Ypsilanti, Mich., April 10, 1917, to Franklin Wayne Osburn, lieutenant in the United States navy.

Charlotte Ayres, '16, was married at East Orange, New Jersey, April 28, 1917, to Arthur Youle Meeker.

Irene E. Smith, '15, has been appointed to a position in the Public library, Seattle, Washington.

Miss Greta Linder, '16, is at work for the Swedish library commission, cataloging for the last part of the State catalog and its first annual supplement. She also examines applications for state aid, makes out lists of books for foreign use and finds time to give a few talks on American libraries and life in America.

Victor Törnudd, '15, and Allan Wallenius, '16, have both been in prison for the cause of Finnish liberty. Mr Wallenius during five weeks in January and February, and Mr Törnudd from November until the Russian revolution. "Mr Törnudd's release was as dramatic as it could be. It was originally said that he should become free on the first of March. He was, however, kept beyond that time without knowing why. Later, he was informed that the Governor

General of Finland had decided that he should be kept in prison until the end of the war and not in a Finnish prison but in Russia or in Siberia. On March 15, he was sent from Åbo on his way to Petrograd, but he never got any further than to Viborg, the last city in Finland before the Russian frontier. There, the sixteenth, he met the revolution in the shape of Russian soldiers, who during the night opened the prison."

AZARIAH S. ROOT,
Principal.

New York State library school

The classes of 1917 and 1918 have given the school a large rug to be used in Room 310 where most of the social functions of the school are held.

Three lectures have recently been given in the course on administration. William H. Brett gave an illustrated lecture on The Cleveland public library, on April 18. A. L. Bailey spoke April 30, on Relations of trustees, staff and public in the medium-sized library. Mr Bailey's lecture was supplemented by a talk on May 4 by Drew B. Hall who spoke on Internal administration of medium-sized libraries and some records best adapted to special purposes.

Miss Carrie E. Scott, of the Indiana library commission visited the school on April 23 and spoke very interestingly on commission work in Indiana.

Commencement exercises will be held June 15. Dr H. L. Koopman, librarian of Brown university will deliver the principal address. A list of the titles of the graduation bibliographies follows:

Ellen F. Adams, Colonial New England in fiction.

Arthur R. Blessing. List of books on motor cars and motor cycles.

Carl L. Cannon. Journalism in the United States and England since 1890.

Edna H. France. Social problems in fiction published since 1900.

James Hodgson. The flags, seals and mottoes of the United States and New York State.

Marion L. Horton. Out of door books for high school pupils.

Hilda M. Lancefield. List of the Lane papers in the Oregon historical society library.

Cornelia S. Love. Anthony Trollope.

Ruth Wilcox. Nuremberg: Annotated reading list.

Mary P. Wiggin and Harold G. Russell will present community studies in lieu of bibliographies.

The faculty is considering a considerable extension of the instruction given in the organization of business material. Any former student, or others, interested in business libraries or business branches will do the school a service by sending any constructive suggestions to the vice-director.

For the third season, the school libraries division of the State education department and the New York State library school will cooperate in a library institute for high school teachers to be held July 9-20. It will practically be confined to an elementary series of discussions on reference work, with collateral lectures by specialists from the department and is planned solely with a view to state conditions.

The summer session will begin May 31. The registrations indicate a fair attendance, considering the abnormal social and financial conditions prevalent at present.

Ethel I. Berry, '11-12, has resigned the librarianship of the Franklin Avenue branch of the Minneapolis public library.

Roscoe L. Dunn, '15-16, who went to the Boston museum of fine arts last September as assistant, has been made acting librarian.

The following students have arranged for temporary work during the summer months: Charles M. Baker, reference-catalog department, New York public library; N. Mignon Fisher, cataloger, Clark university library and Elisabeth Weeks, circulation department, New York public library.

FRANK K. WALTER.

Pratt institute

Pratt Institute as a whole has been keenly alive to the possibilities of patriotic service. The library school was very glad to be called upon for practical help, and under Miss Gooch' direction volunteers have spent a number of hours putting the rapidly growing file of membership cards into alphabetical order. The students have also volunteered to give their Saturdays for work in connection with the military census that is to be taken in New York.

In the third term Friday afternoon is visiting day, and the class have been making good use of the time in various institutions in Brooklyn and New York. On

Saturday, April 28, the class went by invitation to visit the establishment of the H. W. Wilson Company at White Plains. After the work of the different departments was explained by those in charge, Mr Wilson entertained the class at luncheon at the White Plains club.

The students have enjoyed their usual course of five lectures on Library buildings from William R. Eastman of Albany. Miss L. E. Stearns talked to the class on April 3 about library work, past and present; Miss S. Eugenia Wallace, librarian of the Guaranty Trust Company of New York, lectured on April 24 on Libraries in business houses, and on May 8, John Foster Carr, director of the Immigrant publication society of New York, spoke on The library and the immigrant.

Alumni notes

Edna A. Rupp, '06, who has been for some years past cataloger at the Long Island historical society library, has been appointed librarian of the North Dakota historical society library at Bismarck.

Ruth S. Hull, '15, has resigned from the library of Girard college to accept a position in the Public library of Harrisburg, Pa.

Evelyn Brooke, '16, who since graduation has been cataloging at Yale university library, has accepted a position in the catalog department of the Hispanic museum in New York.

Esther Giblin, '16, has gone as assistant to the Long Island historical society library.

Louise D. Coulter-King, '16, has resigned from the Osterhout free library at Wilkes-Barré, Pa., to become librarian of the Hartford county medical society at Hartford, Conn.

Beulah G. Murray, '16, until recently in the reference department of the Carnegie library at Pittsburgh, has accepted a position in the Normal school library at her home in Oshkosh, Wis.

JOSEPHINE ADAMS RATHBONE,
Vice-Director.

Training class, Portland, Ore.

The chief event of the spring term has been a series of lectures given by Mrs Gudrun Thorne-Thomsen on Storytelling and literature for children.

Portions of the course were open (for a fee) to any one interested in the subject, and many teachers and parents of this city availed themselves of the opportunity. Librarians from several other cities also attended for a week or longer. In addition to the general lectures on the

principles which should govern the selection of literature for children, there was a short course of practice work in actual story-telling by members of the teachers' class, to groups of children from the several grades of the public schools followed by discussion and criticism of the stories told.

Other lectures not by the regular staff were:

Principles of public speaking, Miss Nina Greathouse

Development of State library work and especially the work of the State library of Oregon, Miss Cornelia Marvin

College library work, Miss Maida Rosser, librarian, Reed college.

Newspapers and their policies, Dr C. H. Chapman of staff of *Oregon Journal*.

Work of the Forest Service library, Mrs Miller, Forest Service librarian, Portland.

ETHEL R. SAWYER,

Director.

University of Washington

Gertrude E. Andrus, superintendent of the children's department of the Seattle public library, is giving her annual course of lectures on Library work with children.

A lecture on Library publicity was given April 18, by Charles H. Compton, reference librarian of the Seattle public library, and a member of the A. L. A. publicity committee.

Elizabeth Topping, librarian of the Everett public library, gave a lecture, April 25 on "The problems of the small library."

A series of lectures is given during the last semester of each year by the leading members of the staffs of the Seattle, Tacoma, and other nearby public libraries. These lectures are concentrated in the last semester on the theory that the students will comprehend their significance much more fully after having had the general theoretical view of the entire field of library activity.

Helen Carson, '14, is in the University branch library, Seattle.

Helen Pinkerton, '13, is a member of the staff of the Tacoma public library.

Lillian Collins, '14, is in the reference department of the Seattle public library.

Gezina Thomas, '16, is assistant in the Children's room of the Ballard branch library.

Ruth Davis, '16, formerly of the Tacoma public library, is now in the branch department of the Seattle public library.

Beatrice Mercer, '16, is assistant circulation librarian at the University of Washington library.

Marjorie Zinkie, '14, is in the circulation department of the Seattle public library.

W. E. HENRY.

Western Reserve university

The course in Government documents was given by Mr Vitz after the Easter vacation.

The Book selection course has included lectures by Mrs Harron on foreign translations discussing drama, fiction and general literature, one lecture on poetry by Professor B. P. Bourland, of Adelbert college and one lecture on New poetry by Miss Bessie Sargeant-Smith.

Miss Annie S. Cutter, supervisor of Grade school libraries, Cleveland, spoke to the class on April 20 on her work. A visit to the Cleveland normal school library and that of Oakland grade school followed.

Miss Bessie H. Shepard, reference librarian at the Cleveland public library, talked to the class on May 2, concerning the work of a reference department.

The Public library and community welfare course was concluded, May 2, in a very inspiring manner by addresses on phases of social service and library work by Mr F. W. Jenkins, librarian of the Russell Sage Foundation, New York.

The director spent the Easter vacation in the East, and spoke before the library school of the New York public library on April 11. While she was in New York a number of the former students of the Western Reserve library school entertained her at luncheon.

Among the welcome visitors at the school recently have been Mrs Johnson Brigham, of Des Moines, Iowa; Miss Lucy Keeler, of Fremont, Ohio; and Mr E. I. Antrim, of Van Wert, Ohio.

On May 10, a special Commencement exercise was held at Western Reserve university for the Adelbert college seniors, two-thirds of whom had volunteered for service in the war. At the same time a certificate from the library school was granted to William McCullin

McKee, class of 1917, who left at once for his home in Pittsburgh to assume his place in a hospital unit.

Ernest J. Reece, '05, has been appointed principal of the library school of the New York public library.

Mrs Amy S. Hobart has resigned her position as librarian of the Woodland branch library of Cleveland to accept that of director of the Girls' bureau of Cleveland.

Theodosia E. Hamilton, '07, has resigned her position as assistant cataloger at the Des Moines public library and is at present at Cove, Arkansas.

Clara L. Schafer, '14, has been appointed children's librarian, at the East Seventy-ninth Street branch library, Cleveland.

Helen L. Shearer, '16, resigned her position as branch assistant in the Detroit public library to accept a position in the Reuben McMillan library at Youngstown, Ohio.

ALICE S. TYLER,
Director.

University of Wisconsin

During the spring quarter the following special lectures have been given in addition to those already reported:

April 19. Some English poets of today, Dr Lewis Chase, of the department of English.

April 23. Library commission work, Henry N. Sanborn, secretary of the Indiana library commission.

April 26. Quilts and their story, Mrs. Marie Webster, author of *Quilts, their story and how to make them*. Mrs. Webster was in Madison visiting an exhibit of quilts inspired by her own book.

May 4. Administration of a high school branch, Ruth C. Rice, '14, librarian of the Madison high school branch.

May 21. The administration of a university library, P. L. Windsor, director of the Illinois library school.

The customary May day festival was pleasantly observed on the Saturday morning preceding the calendar date, April 28. Miss Mary Eileen Ahern, editor of *PUBLIC LIBRARIES* was the speaker of the day, giving a forceful address on *What things are Caesar's*. An informal reception for Miss Ahern and other guests of the school followed. The class gift was presented during the morning, two cases of Fulper pottery, for both use and decoration in the school rooms. In shades of iridescent green, they add a

much needed note of color to the rooms, which are in shades of brown. Poster-bulletins, the work of the students, were displayed on the walls of the gallery and were unusually successful, if the interested comment they provoked can be taken as a test. In the exhibition cases the finest collection of book plates owned in Madison was displayed, loaned by its collector, John T. Lee.

The students were invited to share two illustrated lectures with the students in journalism on paper making by Otto Kress of the U. S. forest products laboratory, and to see a demonstration of paper making at the laboratory.

Announcement was made to the class in May of the honorariums offered through the generosity of R. R. Bowker for general excellence in subject bibliography and in book selection, announcement of these to be made at commencement.

Many of the students have availed themselves of the opportunity of hearing lecturers of note who have addressed the university within the month. Important among these have been:

Prof John Dewey of Teachers' college on Democracy and education.

M. W. Ellsworth, former president of the Century Co. on Literature and the publisher.

Capt. Ian Hay Beith of the British army on the Humorous side of trench life.

The special problem of the spring term for every student is the compilation of a subject bibliography, and this year's class is no exception to the rule of diligent and careful work.

The school catalog for 1916-18 was published in May.

Guests of the school on May day included the following librarians: Miss Faith E. Smith, principal of the Chicago public library training class, Miss Kate Chase, librarian of Fuller Park branch, Chicago, Miss Maud McPherson, Miss Callie Wieder, '14, librarian and Miss Dorothy Rogers, assistant of the Fond du Lac library staff, Miss Lucille Menkey, librarian, Hudson public library.

Appointments for the class of 1917 number 26 to date (May 15), with four

temporary appointments for summer work. They are as follows:

Marjorie F. Carlton, branch assistant, Public library, Evansville, Ind.

Laura S. Caton, children's librarian, Public library, Sheboygan, Wis.

Charlotte H. Clark, member, Training class for children's librarians, Public library, Cleveland.

Esther M. Fredrickson, acting head cataloger, Public library, St. Joseph, Mo.

Margaret Gilpin, head of loan department, Public library, Hibbing, Minn.

Mildred F. Goodnow, head of extension department, Public library, Springfield, Ill.

Emma O. Hance, chief of order department, Public library of District of Columbia, Washington.

Gladys M. Hook, librarian, Public library, So. Milwaukee.

Grace E. Howard, first assistant, Public library, Pottsville, Pa.

Jessie P. Jenks, assistant cataloger, Iowa State teachers' college, Cedar Falls.

Harriet L. Kidder, index and filing clerk, State Council of defense, Madison.

Hazel D. Laing, assistant in charge of extension work, Public library, Hibbing, Minn.

Mary B. Lee, chief of circulation department, Public library, Dubuque, Iowa.

Kathinka I. von der Lippe, member, Training class for children's librarians, Public library, Cleveland.

Alice Lyons, member, Training class for children's librarians, Public library, Cleveland.

Esther Melnikow, general assistant, Public library, Milwaukee.

Sue Osmotherly, assistant, Public library, Sioux City, Iowa.

Marriet T. Root, first assistant, Wylie Avenue branch, Pittsburgh.

Madeline M. Scanlan, senior assistant, Public library, San Diego, Cal.

Blanche B. Shelp, librarian, Myron Scudder school, New York City.

Ruth A. Sorenson, children's librarian, Public library, Eau Claire.

Helen S. Stevenson, branch librarian, Public library, Evansville, Ind.

Esther M. Swain, assistant cataloger, Burton library, Detroit.

Vivian P. Swerig, branch assistant, Public library, Evansville, Ind.

Ruth H. Tobey, member, Training class for children's librarians, Public library, Cleveland.

Sonja Wennerblad, member, Training class for children's librarians, Public library, Cleveland.

The temporary positions filled are:

Hazel E. Armstrong, assistant librarian for summer quarter, Indiana state normal school, Terre Haute.

Jessie P. Jenks, reference librarian for summer session, State normal school, Peru, Neb.

Emilie Mueser, assistant for summer session, Wisconsin library school, Madison.

Emily M. Richie, substitute, Public library, Grand Rapids, Mich.

Alumni notes

May Westgate, '13, has received an appointment under civil service as assistant in the library of the U. S. Bureau of education, Washington. She has been in the bibliography division of the Newberry library since graduation from school.

Frances A. Hannum, '15, is organizing the business library of John W. Thorne & Co., New York City, a firm engaged in exporting and importing. She resigned her position May 15 in the Free public library, Newark, N. J., to accept the librarianship of the business library.

The annual meeting and reunion dinner of the Alumni association will be held at Louisville, June 23.

MARY EMOGENE HAZELTINE,
Preceptor.

Simmons college

The climax of the visits of the year came in the annual visits to Providence and Worcester on April 28 and May 5. Those days give the Simmons students more idea of the traditional "library trips" than their usual afternoon visits to a single place. In Providence we were indebted to the courtesy of the State library, the Public library, Providence atheneum, John Hay, John Carter Brown, and Annmary Brown libraries.

In Worcester, the Public library; Worcester County law library, the American antiquarian society, and Clark university library were equally hospitable.

On May 7, an hour was spent at the Boston Book Company, our near neighbor.

The special lecturer for this year was Mr Martel of the Library of Congress, who gave six lectures on the Library of Congress classification, April 16-18.

In the High school libraries course Miss Bigelow, librarian of the Newtonville technical high school library, and Miss Frances Bickford, of the new Bridgeport, Conn., high school, spoke of their libraries, and two members of the class, Miss Campbell, librarian of the Chaffey high school, Ontario, Cal., and

Miss Greer, librarian of the Central high school in Minneapolis, gave especially interesting glimpses of libraries in other parts of the country than New England.

Miss Jordan talked of the co-operation of school and library in its various applications to the high school library problem.

Mr Bolton gave two lectures on early American library history on May 8 and 10, and Dr Mark spoke of the Book selection classes on the Choice of books on chemistry.

During the year the faculty of the college has been engaged in a consideration and revision of its curriculum, and has decided finally to adopt as a standard for the four year program, a year containing five year-courses, each meeting three times a week.

One extra course is required in either the senior or junior year, which brings the requirements for graduation to 21 year-courses.

Heretofore the library school students have had a very rigid academic requirement with only one elective and no options, but in the new plan, one elective will be possible in each of the last three years; and in the sophomore year it will be possible to elect chemistry, and in the junior year biology if desired. Heretofore the only special development possible has been in the lines of language, and though that will still probably remain the main-traveled road, it is felt that a chance to diversify the academic preparation of the library group will not merely be a cultural advantage to those whose tastes are scientific, but will make it possible for the graduates to enter a much wider range of positions.

Many of the students at Simmons elect Spanish, and a new course is to be offered on South America, which will give some light on the history, economic conditions, and literature of "those other Americans" which would be particularly useful to those with a knowledge of Spanish.

With these changes in the academic department, modifications have also been made in the technical work.

With the exception of one course in reference and classification, which is to be given the second year, the technical

work will now be gathered in the last two years.

When the full plan is in operation the technical work of the regular four year students and of the one year graduate students will be identical, though the classes will be separate except in one or two courses.

Owing to Mr Belden's new responsibilities at the Boston public library, he will be unable to give all of the document course hereafter, though we hope still to have his assistance for part of it. After his return from Japan next month that course will be rearranged.

Elizabeth Fanning, '15-16, has been appointed librarian of the Social service library, Boston.

Mabel Williams, '09, has received an appointment as assistant to Miss Moore, supervisor of children's work in the New York public library.

Louise Delano, '15, is assistant in compiling a bibliography on physiological chemistry under Mr Shaw of the Massachusetts Institute of technology.

Lucy Bell, '14, is an assistant in the reference cataloging division of the New York public library.

Clara Penney, '12, is also an assistant in the reference cataloging department of the New York public library.

Abbie Glover, '17, has been appointed assistant in the Somerville public library.

Edna Woodbury, '16-17, has been appointed children's librarian in the Somerville public library.

Margaret Ormond, '17, has accepted the position as assistant in the Swarthmore college library.

Marie Smalley, '15, has received an appointment as assistant in the Plymouth, Massachusetts, public library.

Ernestine Packard, Helen Goster, '17, have received appointments as assistants in the U. S. Department of Agriculture library.

Ina Hawes, '17, has been appointed assistant in the U. S. Bureau of Entomology library.

Dorothy Black, '17, has accepted a position as assistant in the Ferguson library, Stamford, Conn.

Margaret Greer, '16-17, has accepted a re-appointment to the Central high school library, Minneapolis.

On May 12 Miss Donnelly had the pleasure of being the guest at luncheon of 11 of the Simmons girls now on the staff of the New York public library.

JUNE RICHARDSON DONNELLY,
Director.

Syracuse university

The annual Easter trip of the senior class to Washington and New York extended from April 6 to April 17. The party, which was under the guidance of Miss Thorne, included sixteen members of the senior class.

In Washington, the party visited the Congressional library, the library of the District of Columbia, the Documents office and the library of the Department of agriculture. Ample time was also allowed for trips to Mt. Vernon, Arlington, and other points of historical interest in and near the city.

In New York, the class visited the main building of the New York public library and also two branches, the Columbia University library, two branches of the Brooklyn public library, and spent a half day in the free public library at Newark, N. J.

Good weather, good health and good leadership made the trip a pleasurable one for all the party.

Lecturers who have lately appeared before the school are Franklin F. Hopper, chief of the Order department of the New York public library, Adeline Zachert, director of Children's work in the Rochester public library, and John Foster Carr, secretary of the Immigrant Publication Society of New York City. Mr Hopper gave two helpful and instructive lectures, founded on the knowledge gained during his broad experience, on the methods of ordering books and the administration of an order department. Miss Zachert's two lectures were concerned with the chief phases of children's work. Mr Carr's morning lecture dealt with the general subject of assisting immigrants, his afternoon lecture with the possibilities of library work for them. Both were illustrated with lantern slides.

Lucile Scull, '16, is assistant in the Ottenderfer branch of the New York public library, and Anita Robinson, '16, in the Washington Heights branch.

Margaret Sanborn, who married Frederick Diem in March of 1916, has recently moved to Plainfield, N. J.

Miss Emma E. Kinne, '09, has resigned from the catalog department of the Syracuse University library and will live in Brandon, Florida.

E. E. SPERRY, Director.

Summer schools

A course in library methods will be given at the University of Michigan, July 2-August 24. Further information may be obtained by addressing William W. Bishop, librarian of the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Mich.

A summer school for library training will be conducted by the Minnesota library commission of Minneapolis, June 18-July 27. It will be under the direction of Miss Clara F. Baldwin on the public library side and Miss Marth Wilson, as director of the course for school librarians.

The course is open only to those holding library positions and teachers under contract for service in high school libraries. Application for admission must be made either to Miss Baldwin or Miss Wilson.

The Ohio board of library commissioners will conduct a summer course in library training, July 2-August 11 inclusive. The school will be under the immediate direction of the Library Organization department, and through the courtesy of the trustees will be held in the library of the Ohio state university.

Further information will be given on request to J. Howard Dice, State House, Columbus, Ohio.

The field of work for New York school students

In a recent report of the New York state library school, it is said that more positions have been held in New York than anywhere else, and students of the school are in positions in 39 other states and in seven foreign countries. These positions range from librarian or department heads in 40 of the 50 largest cities in the country and staff members of nearly 60 colleges and university libraries, to library commission workers in 19 states, librarians in small libraries and instructors in 13 library schools. In all, 655 women and 168 men have matriculated.

The greatest delusion in the world is the apparent triumph of humbug. Things remain what they are in spite of gilding.

Department of School Libraries

The High School Library*

Helen S. Babcock, librarian, Austin high school, Chicago

In discussing the high school library perhaps it will be well for me to preface my remarks with this information, that the high school library as being administered by the Chicago public library is an entirely new venture, so that of necessity it is in an experimental stage, consequently if some of my remarks seem trite to those of you who have long been engaged in this special field of library work you will have to pardon them and simply attribute our enthusiasm to our extreme youth. At present there are five high schools with libraries conducted as branches of the Chicago public library, none of which has as yet given a year's service.

There is no doubt that the importance of effective high school libraries has been and is being perceived by all educators and we in Chicago feel that the combining of our two greatest educational forces to accomplish this end is an epoch making event in the educational history of the city. This co-operation on the part of the Board of education and the Library board seems a happy solution of efficient libraries for the high school. Both school and library have the same end in view, namely, the education of people that they may take their place in the world better fitted to fulfill their duties. How wise it is, then, that those things which can be performed by each of these institutions are assumed by the one best fitted to discharge the responsibility, while where they overlap there is joint administration such as we have in the high school library.

Through this co-operation these general policies have been adopted. The Board of education gives the room, furniture, light, heat and janitor service, while the Library board sends a trained librarian and such assistants as are nec-

essary and pays the salaries of the same. In regard to the book supply, the Board of education buys all reference books and books of which many duplicate copies are needed,—this leaving the library appropriation free for the main body of the collection and for current material. The library also subscribes for the magazines—which vary in number according to the size and requirements of the school. At the Austin high school, which is one of the smaller schools, the enrollment being only 1,700, we have 47 magazines on our list. In my short experience they have proven the most popular thing in the library, for the tendency now in teaching is to use the material of today rather than that of centuries back, because of the greater possibility of relating it to the school work and the community.

The school library presents many problems because of its methods and needs. However, the library ideal should remain the same—to see that the students are made familiar with the world's store house of knowledge, to widen their interests, to help them to know and love good books and last but not least, how to use them. Primarily all this is a school problem and so our public library methods have to be modified to suit the circumstances. First and foremost we must get the teacher's attitude and method—then maintain it, thereby getting mutual and real co-operation. Unless we can so adjust ourselves, the task of directing and helping the children is almost hopeless and useless. At all times we should keep in touch with the courses of study and the various departments so that we can relate their work to the library and let each department see just what the library can do for it. One of the strongest points of contact with the students is through the social and club activities of the school. Dr Dawson Johnston says, "A library is not so much a collection of books but a form of service." Living up to this we have always to be on the alert not only to give the thing asked for—

*Read before Illinois library association, Ottawa, October 13, 1916.

but also to anticipate as much as possible the demands to be made on the library.

Modern high school methods are so rapidly changing that it seems a propitious time for the library to have made its entry in the school. Realizing that education is for all the people instead of a small per cent, that it is the training of many for a great diversity of things, there has been a broadening of ideals in regard to purpose and method. As a result there has been much adapting of the courses to the needs of the community and the people—for the school is the natural and logical center of the community and is the greatest of democratic agencies.

The general educational tendency is for the freedom and development of the individual. Right here lies the opportunity of the library, by having congenial literature for each one that he may follow out his own bent. It is much easier to inspire enthusiasm for a natural selection than one which has been forced upon him. We should endeavor to build up the high school collections so that there is available literature for each subject and then so develop the use of the library through instruction that the students can find for themselves the things they want and need. While working for this end I think we must be careful not to arrogate too much authority to ourselves, but to keep in close touch with and have a keen sympathy for all that affects the faculty and the students.

One has only to work in a high school library to realize the truth of what Mr Dana says, "There are still those among the teaching force who cannot see clearly the place of the library in the educational field; there are others who are so interested in their own field of teaching and so thoroughly satisfied with what they are doing along their own line, that they do not care to go out of well worn paths." Mr Dana amplifies this by stating that there are many, though, who do take a lively interest in our work, seeing the possibilities for his own special field. I am thankful that the greater majority of our faculty is of the latter type.

Possibly some of you will be interested

to hear of the manner in which the library in the Austin high school was introduced to the pupils. When the Chicago public library took charge, things were in rather a chaotic condition, due to the completion of the new addition. So far as the library was concerned the books had just been dumped in the new room. As soon as they were ready for circulation and matters began to take shape, Mr Rockwood, who is principal, requested that all students should have an hour in the library that they might be told of the rules and regulations. A program covering a period of three weeks was made out. By this all English classes were assigned to the library for one school period. Each English teacher gave up a day to the library, meeting her classes there, taking the attendance and making necessary assignments, then the students were turned over to my tender mercies. Ten minutes was ample time to devote to the rules and regulations, so the rest of the period was used to give a general outline of the library, its work and tools, all of which was made as simple as possible.

First the hours were explained, how and when books could be drawn, also the use of the library during the school day. The "admit" system is proving satisfactory with us. According to this the student must have an "admit" either from his class or study room teacher properly signed by her, stating the period during which he wishes to use the library. These slips are collected as the children enter, are signed by the person in charge and returned to the student, who in turn must see that it is taken back to the study room teacher in order that his absence from the room may be accounted for. This makes a double check on the child, so there is little chance of his cutting classes and roaming around the building.

Next the reason for the necessity of some sort of classification with a word of explanation about the Decimal and why it is so called was given. The children were asked to take down the ten general classes while the 500 class was used to illustrate the divisions and 510 the subdivisions. Next the left to right arrange-

ment of the general classes, also the reading of the shelves, case by case from left to right, was dwelt upon. When the reference section was reached the definition of a reference book was given. The children were then told of the magazine material, why it is valuable and how it is made available through the *Reader's Guide*. Here the guide was shown and briefly outlined. This made a good introduction to the catalog—why the information is on cards—its likeness to a dictionary—and the three kinds of cards which are made to represent each book, emphasizing the fact that if one of three things was known the book could be located.

This very sketchy explanation took about 35 minutes, then if there were any questions they were answered, and if time permitted, manila slips with book numbers on them were distributed. The children hunted the designated book, bringing it to see if the correct one had been found, then they were asked to put the book back in its proper place. This proved a happy ending for the library hour and especially with the younger pupils, who came back for slip after slip. The results of their coming in contact with the shelves was interesting. Boys and girls seeing something of interest would come back after school to get it.

Mr Rockwood felt that even this meager instruction was such a help in giving the children an insight into the workings of the library that he asked me to repeat the talk to the in-coming students this fall, and later when things are better organized to work out some further plan of instruction, so that our prospects are bright indeed. "If we want the library to be the great continuation school for boys and girls, we must early acquaint them with its resources." This can only be done by systematic instruction. As yet I have not had the time to outline this work, but I do believe most sincerely that the principle should be combined with practice, giving them first the theory and then problems which are practical and related to the school work, so that they may see the value of it. Our first aim should be to make the student

at home in the library and the book a vital force in his school life, teaching him not to rely entirely upon the text book but to go to other sources, and then that "Books should teach us to reason and not always to use the reasons of others" but to develop personal discovery. If we can just foster an all around growth inspiring them to profit by what others have done through the printed page, then we may feel that we have commenced our work aright. "If the library teaches the world's workers to do the world's work more effectively," and not only to know and understand books but to relate them to mankind, then we are justified in being in the high school, for thus we are doing the community one of the greatest services which can be rendered.

Notes

The report of the Leavenworth free public library shows that especial emphasis has been laid upon the work with the grade schools. By means of frequent visits, lessons in the use of the card catalog, and attention to the needs of the school boxes in the book purchasing, the circulation of books has been rapidly increased. An interesting feature of the work is the fact that the children select and read a decidedly better class of books from these boxes than when confronted by the wider range of choice at the main library.

The quality rather than the quantity of books circulated should be the first consideration. Books might find their way to our shelves of which it could be said with perfect truth that the greater their circulation the worse for the community. Make the stamp of approval of the library a guarantee of merit, even though the circulation figures should suffer.

The Boston university is offering, free, War emergency courses for women to fit them for government positions and places left vacant by men leaving for the war. This course will be along general lines, including filing, reference work, and how to use the public library. R. L. Powers, librarian of the College of business administration, has been appointed chairman of the publicity committee and special lecturer in the course.

News from the Field**East**

Charles P. Chipman, for five years librarian of Colby college, Waterville, Me., has resigned to accept a business position in South Manchester, Conn.

The forty-fourth annual report of the Public library of Somerville, Mass., shows a total circulation of 390,465 v., with 14,436 registered borrowers and 110,336 v. on the shelves. The receipts were \$53,940 and expenditures the same.

George H. Evans, since 1909, librarian of the Public library of Woburn, Mass., has been elected librarian of the Public library of Somerville, Mass. He had done library work previously in Dartmouth college and the Brooklyn public library.

The fifty-sixth annual report of the Public library, New Bedford, Mass., records number of books on the shelves, 157,805; circulation, 407,830 v.; registered borrowers, 21,889.

The fifty-eighth annual report of the Public library of Cambridge, Mass., states that 1916 has been a year of notable expansion in the field of the library's activities. The total circulation was 385,169 v., of which 135,719 books were issued for children; books on the shelves, 113,314. During the year, two branch libraries have been established.

Yale university has conferred upon Charles J. Barr, its new assistant librarian, the honorary degree of Master of Arts. Mr Barr already holds the degree of Ph. B. from the University of Michigan, and that of B. L. S. from the New York State library school.

It is interesting to note that Mr Barr was called to Yale with the rank, tenure, salary, and right to retiring allowance of a full professor.

Miss E. W. Sherman, for over 30 years connected with the Library Bureau, Boston, resigned recently and was married to Benjamin H. Richardson on April 30. The management of the Library Bureau celebrated the retirement of Miss Sherman from the firm, by a magnificent banquet attended by 60 of the employees

who had come in close touch with Miss Sherman through the Boston office.

The Library Bureau presented Miss Sherman with a handsome wrist watch, accompanied by a pendant and chain. The staff of her department, also, presented her with a handsome gift.

Mr. and Mrs. Richardson will be at home at 1470 Beacon Street, Brookline, Mass.

The thirty-ninth annual report of the Public library of Providence, R. I., records books on the shelves, 170,825; volumes added, 11,152; number of borrowers, 36,444; total circulation for the year, 293,065. Number of stations, 44, of which 16 are in schools, 15 in playgrounds and 13 in business establishments.

Mention is made of the gift of \$1,500,000 by the late Miss Lyra Brown Nickerson.

The library authorities are giving a detailed study to the activities of the library which especially need developing and relief from hampering conditions. "The work must be brought up to date by this welcome financial assistance, before any noteworthy advances can be made."

The annual report of the Brockton public library records a total circulation of 231,925v. There was a considerable decrease in the circulation of books for home use owing in part to the prevalence of good business conditions as well as to wide spread epidemics. The average issue per day was 758. The total expenditures for the year amounted to \$24,676; expenditure for books, \$4,716. A branch reading room, maintained at Montello, has been moved to larger quarters. A few public service activities, such as health exhibits, lectures, story hours and general lectures have served to widen the scope of the library's work. The number of books in foreign languages has been increased by the purchase of additional volumes in Greek, Polish and a few Spanish.

The fifty-seventh annual report of the Public library of Worcester, Mass., has an appeal from a special committee of the board of directors, setting forth the need

for a new library building. Library classes from the high and grammar schools showed a decided increase both in numbers and interest. The school deposits have increased in number and value until they are practically branch libraries for the neighborhood. The "community rooms" in the branch libraries are increasingly useful and are used for all sorts of occasions. The library recommends membership in the Rotary club as means of reaching substantial business men.

Circulation, 664,649 v.; number of borrowers' cards, 33,174; number of books on the shelves, 235,868; receipts, \$79,903; expenses for books, \$14,907; periodicals, \$2,434; binding, \$4,338; administration, \$42,502.

The report of the Harvard college library for 1916, states that the collection has reached a total of nearly two million volumes and periodicals. There were 46,429 v. added to the library during the year.

A number of notable gifts were received; a collection of English political and controversial tracts of the period of the Civil war (seventeenth century), numbering over 4,000 different items; a number of rare volumes, manuscripts and letters were added to the Widener collection by members of the family; from Mrs J. T. Fields, a number of original manuscripts of highest literary interest connected with the work of American writers, interesting personal copies of books of historical character, also, a large number of autographed letters from English and American writers of the nineteenth century; a remarkable collection of editions of Horace containing many of the choice editions of the poet was presented by Mrs H. H. Edes. The library received, also, liberal donations for the purchase of books to be added to various departments.

The re-organization of the library, carried on under pressure for the past five years, with inexperienced help, makes the work at the present time, increasingly arduous.

Three new classes have been formed, Chinese literature, Japanese literature,

and Dutch and Belgian documents. The re-arrangement of the newspaper collection, a task postponed for many years, has been almost completed.

The falling off in receipt of books from abroad has made it possible to care for many collections awaiting treatment for a long time. In the course of the year, 5,440 catalog titles have been printed and distributed. The introduction of some 60 professors' studies and of the three hundred stalls in the stack, has added new difficulties to the problem of keeping track of the books. The map collection room has been set aside as a memorial to Justin Winsor, librarian of the university from 1877 to 1897. Indebtedness to Mr Winsor's son-in-law and granddaughter is acknowledged. The room has been re-arranged and a portrait of Mr Winsor and a bronze tablet, make the plan of the memorial possible.

A state public library commission, authorized by the legislature, has been appointed by the governor of New Hampshire, as follows: Albertus P. Dudley, Exeter; F. Mabel Winchell, Manchester; James F. Brennan, Peterboro; Olin F. Davis, Laconia.

Miss Winchell is well known among New England librarians in connection with her work in Massachusetts and New Hampshire. She is librarian of the Public library of Manchester, N. H.

Mr Dudley is well known as the author of boys' books, is a graduate of Harvard and has been for many years connected with the Noble and Greenough school of Boston.

Mr Brennan is a prominent lawyer of Peterborough. He has been trustee of the State library and, also, library commissioner. Through his efforts, the library bill providing for a state library worker was passed by the legislature. The appropriation to make the bill effective, however, was stricken out so that this much of a handicap for the present is put on what otherwise would have been a very promising situation.

Central Atlantic

Edna H. France, N. Y. State, '17, has been appointed temporary assistant in the New York state library.

H. L. Hughes, librarian of the Public library of Trenton, N. J., was married to Ethel Mary McKee, April 26, at Trenton.

Arthur R. Blessing, N. Y. State, '17, goes to the Public library of the District of Columbia on July 1 as head of the reference department.

Carl L. Cannon, N. Y. State, '17, will go to the New York public library July 1 as general assistant in the Central reference department.

Miss Susan R. Clendenin, Pratt '01, has given up her position as librarian of the firm of Trowbridge and Ackerman to accept a position in the library of the J. P. Morgan Company.

E. M. Jenks, N. Y. State library school '03, is working with the Red Cross in New York city, classifying the applicants for war service and indexing the cards containing these records.

Edmund R. Pearson who writes *The Librarian* column of the Boston Transcript is in the officers' training camp at Plattsburgh, N. Y. Mr. Pearson has been editor of publications for the New York public library.

Frances Kaercher, New York P. L. '15, has resigned her position as assistant librarian of the Public library of Pottsville, Pa., on account of home obligations. Grace E. Howard, Wis. '17, has been elected to the vacancy.

An innovation in library reports is offered by the Public library of Brooklyn, N. Y., whose report is intentionally made up almost exclusively of statistics. "Only the salient features, which of necessity should be a matter of record," are included in the report. Circulation for the year, 5,349,382 v. This was less than in previous years owing to the epidemic which closed the children's room July 7-September 25. Borrowers, 348,631. Books on the shelves, 873,792. Over 70 members of the staff resigned within the year, most of them to accept positions with higher salaries.

The report of the Public library of

Binghamton, N. Y., records the registration in the young people's department, 4,924; borrowed for home use, 53,953 v. Books were sent to 19 schools, 10 playgrounds and the vacation school. These report a circulation of 11,859 v. The library observed Good book week. The mounted picture collection reports a circulation of 3,506. The library borrowed 2,429 slides from the State library. Five exhibits were held during the year and 25 lectures were given in the library building. The civic organizations held 24 meetings and 20 meetings of clubs and societies were held in the library. The library distributed 14 book lists and 3 booklets. The number of volumes circulated, 189,128; total number of borrowers, 22,844; population, 60,000.

Central

Luther L. Dickerson, librarian of Grinnell College, Grinnell, Iowa, has joined the Officers' training corps at Fort Snelling, Minn.

M. S. Dudgeon, secretary of the Wisconsin library commission, is a member of the County board of defense at Madison, Wis.

J. T. Gerould, librarian of the University of Minnesota, has been appointed field chairman of the Red Cross in that state.

Blanch V. Watts, N. Y. State, '10-'11, will be the instructor in cataloging and reference work at the Iowa summer library school.

Mary A. Tawney, N. Y. State, '15-'16, has succeeded Ethel I. Berry as librarian of the Franklin Avenue branch of the Minneapolis public library.

Prof W. E. Jillson, librarian of the Public library, West Allis, Wis., addressed the students of Racine college on Library methods in modern business.

Mrs Amy S. Hobert, librarian of the Woodland branch of the Public library of Cleveland, Ohio, has offered her resignation to take effect July 1, to become director of the Girls Employment Bureau at a salary of \$1800.

Marcus Skarstedt, Illinois '11, for six years librarian of Augustana college, Rock Island, Illinois, has been elected librarian of the Public library of Evanston, Illinois, to succeed the late Mary B. Lindsay.

Miss Cora Hinkins for some time connected with the Chicago public library and later librarian of Sears, Roebuck and Company, Chicago, was married May 26, to Fred D. Farrar. Mrs Farrar will continue her work as librarian while her husband is away in the war.

The annual report of the Public library of Jackson, Mich., records a total circulation of 172,033 v.; number of borrowers, 9340; receipts, \$13,847 with an expenditure of \$13,347. During the year, the library was presented with a bronze replica of St. Gaudens' Lincoln and a cash bequest making possible the purchase of a phonograph and records which have been successfully used for public concerts and for musical work with the children.

The annual report of the Public library of Decatur, Ill., records the most remarkable year in the history of that library. During the year, 139,195 books were circulated, an increase of 28 per cent over the circulation of last year. Card holders number 9450, almost 21 per cent of the population of Decatur. A library week was held last December which aided greatly in bringing people to the library.

Mrs Alice G. Evans has been recently relieved of the administrative duties of the library at her own request.

The forty-third annual report of the Public library of Indianapolis, Ind., records 207,798 v. on the shelves; circulation, 701,049 v. Among the gifts received during the year were \$5000 from Mrs H. H. Lee, for reference books and furniture for the new library building and James Whitcomb Riley's gift of a piece of the ground on which the new library is being built and which gives room for two large additional wings should necessity demand them. The corner stone of the new building was laid in March, 1916.

Ethel Pierce Underhill, director of

children work at the Public library, Youngstown, O., has resigned her position to be married on June 16 to Robert F. Eastman.

Miss Underhill is a graduate of Vassar college and of the Pittsburgh training school. She is well known as a children's worker in Brooklyn and before going to Youngstown was librarian of the children's department of the Public library, Worcester, Mass.

The forty-fourth annual report of the Public library of Chicago, Illinois, states that the increased revenues available January, 1916, have made it possible to renew the board's activities in extending the work of the library in the circulation of books as well as in the extensive changes in the main building. The total number of agencies through which books are distributed, is 944; total circulation for the year, 4,802,432, an increase of 10 per cent over the previous year; total number of books in the library, 701,095; registered borrowers, 199,044; expenditure for books, \$72,171.

The eighth annual report of the Public library of Gary, Ind., records number of volumes on the shelves, 64,043, number of borrowers, 15,754. There was a decrease in the number of readers of 26,000 owing to increased work available in the city and to the cessation of the formal visits of the children in classes from the schools. Circulation, 411,294 v.; fiction, 36.3 per cent; population, 55,000. The library club rooms were used for 420 meetings of 70 different organizations, with an attendance of 16,579 persons. Receipts for the year, \$40,942; total expenditures, \$32,199.

A salary increase affecting more than 400 of the employees of the library and aggregating annually \$40,000, has been authorized by the board of directors of the Chicago public library. The ruling was based on the feeling of the board that the library must pay wages sufficient to retain its tried employees and to encourage suitable recruits to enter its service. The salary list, as published, contains salaries from the lowest \$420 for the pages to the librarian's salary of \$8,500.

The increased salaries were made possible by a diversion of the fine money which heretofore has been given to the Employees Pension fund to the salary fund.

Miss Faith E. Smith, for eight years with the Chicago public library, has resigned her position and will remove to southern California in the summer. Miss Smith came to the Chicago public library from the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh and organized the work for the young people in the Chicago public library, which she supervised until two years ago when she was released to give her entire time to the training class connected with the library. Miss Smith will become the general secretary of the Y. W. C. A. at Los Angeles.

Miss Ada F. Whitcomb, for many years librarian of the Hiram Kelly branch of the Public library, Chicago, will succeed Miss Faith E. Smith as head instructor of the training class of the Chicago public library.

Charles E. Rush has been elected librarian of the Public library of Indianapolis. He will begin his work sometime during the summer.

Mr Rush was born in Indiana and lived there until he graduated from Earlham college in 1905. He was an assistant in the Earlham college library during his course and afterwards had experience in various libraries before going to the New York State library school, from which he was graduated in 1908. He was for a time in the Newark public library and afterwards became librarian of Jackson, Michigan, going from there to become librarian of St. Joseph, Missouri, and later he went to take charge of the Public library of Des Moines, Iowa.

The Public library of Indianapolis will move into its new building within the next few months when the enormous task of reorganizing it along modern lines, will be undertaken by Mr Rush and his staff.

South

Miss Anise Sandford, formerly at the Public library, St. Joseph, Mo., has been appointed librarian of the Public library, Coffeyville, Kans.

Miss Nannie Stagg for 15 years librarian of the Public library, Harrodsburg, Ky., resigned her position and Mrs F. G. Curry was elected to succeed her.

Florida is said to be the only state without a state library. A bill has been introduced in the legislature of that state to provide a state library department.

Cornelia S. Love, N. Y. State, '17, has been appointed assistant cataloger at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. She will begin her duties there Sept. 1.

Miss Betsy T. Wiley has been elected librarian of the Public library of Dallas, Texas, to succeed Miss Rosa M. Leeper, resigned, who has held that position for the last 16 years.

The annual report of the Public library of Little Rock, Ark., records number of volumes on the shelves, 24,490; circulation, 112,232 v.; borrowers, 12,972; population, 44,941; receipts, \$8,198.

Mrs W. A. Lauenstein, formerly Miss Corinne Mitchell, for some time an assistant in the order departments of the St. Louis and Cleveland public libraries, died at her home in St. Louis, May 21, 1917.

The twelfth annual report of the Public library of Jacksonville, Fla., shows a total circulation of 173,487 v.; registered borrowers, 10,588; books on the shelves, 41,697; receipts, \$15,839; expenditures, \$15,839; population 80,000.

Miss Mary D. Pretlow has assumed her duties as librarian of the Public library, Norfolk, Va., succeeding the late William H. Sargeant. Miss Pretlow has had a wide experience in public library work, having been connected with several branch libraries in New York City and St. Louis.

A new library building was opened to the public at Tampa, Florida, April 20, with appropriate ceremonies. The library building is a gift of Andrew Carnegie of \$50,000. The city furnished the lot worth \$15,000 and a gift of several thousand books was received from L. H. Lothridge of New Jersey.

The Carnegie library of Woodward, Okla., was opened recently under the auspices of the club women of the city. Mrs. H. B. Hall, librarian, was efficiently helped in the organization of the library by Mrs. J. A. Thompson of Chickasha. The library is a \$10,000 gift from the Carnegie corporation of New York City.

The annual report of the Public library of Muskogee, Okla., records number of volumes on the shelves, 12,359; circulation, 81,909; meetings held in the library, 222; borrowers' cards in force, 5,719, and expenditures, \$6,531. In addition, the library has spent \$780 for the maintenance of a colored branch, the statistics of which are not included in those given.

A public reception celebrated the opening of the new library building of Nevada, Mo., May 11. The library is a gift from Mr Carnegie. Several gifts from the clubs of the city add to the attractiveness of the building. L. B. furniture and soft tinted walls make a beautiful interior. The library is the result of the long and faithful work of Mrs. W. W. Prewill and Mrs. O. T. Vedder and other club women.

West

Edna Rupp has been appointed librarian of the North Dakota historical society, Bismarck, N. D.

Chalmers Hadley, librarian of Denver, is helping a Red Cross campaign in the Dakotas, Montana and Idaho.

W. T. Auld of Omaha has given \$15,000 to Guide Rock, Neb., for a public library building.

Pacific coast

County library systems have been established in Shasta and Sutter counties, California.

The salary of the state librarian of California has been increased from \$3,600 to \$5,000 a year.

Clare Criswell in the circulation department of the Tacoma public library, has resigned owing to the illness of her mother.

A collection of the famous Curtis' Indian books, valued at \$3,000, has been

presented to the Public library of Pasadena, Cal., by Miss Susan H. Stickney.

The annual report of the Public library of San Diego, Cal., records number of volumes, 62,325; total circulation, 403,517; population, 92,449; receipts, \$37,434, and borrowers, 18,913.

Grace Hall of the Tacoma public library was granted a month's leave of absence to attend a series of lectures and to take special studies in children's work at the Portland (Ore), public library.

Plans are being formulated to open the main library mornings in Tacoma, beginning the last half of the year, possibly as early as June 18. Since January 1, the main library has been closed mornings due to an 18 per cent cut in the library budget.

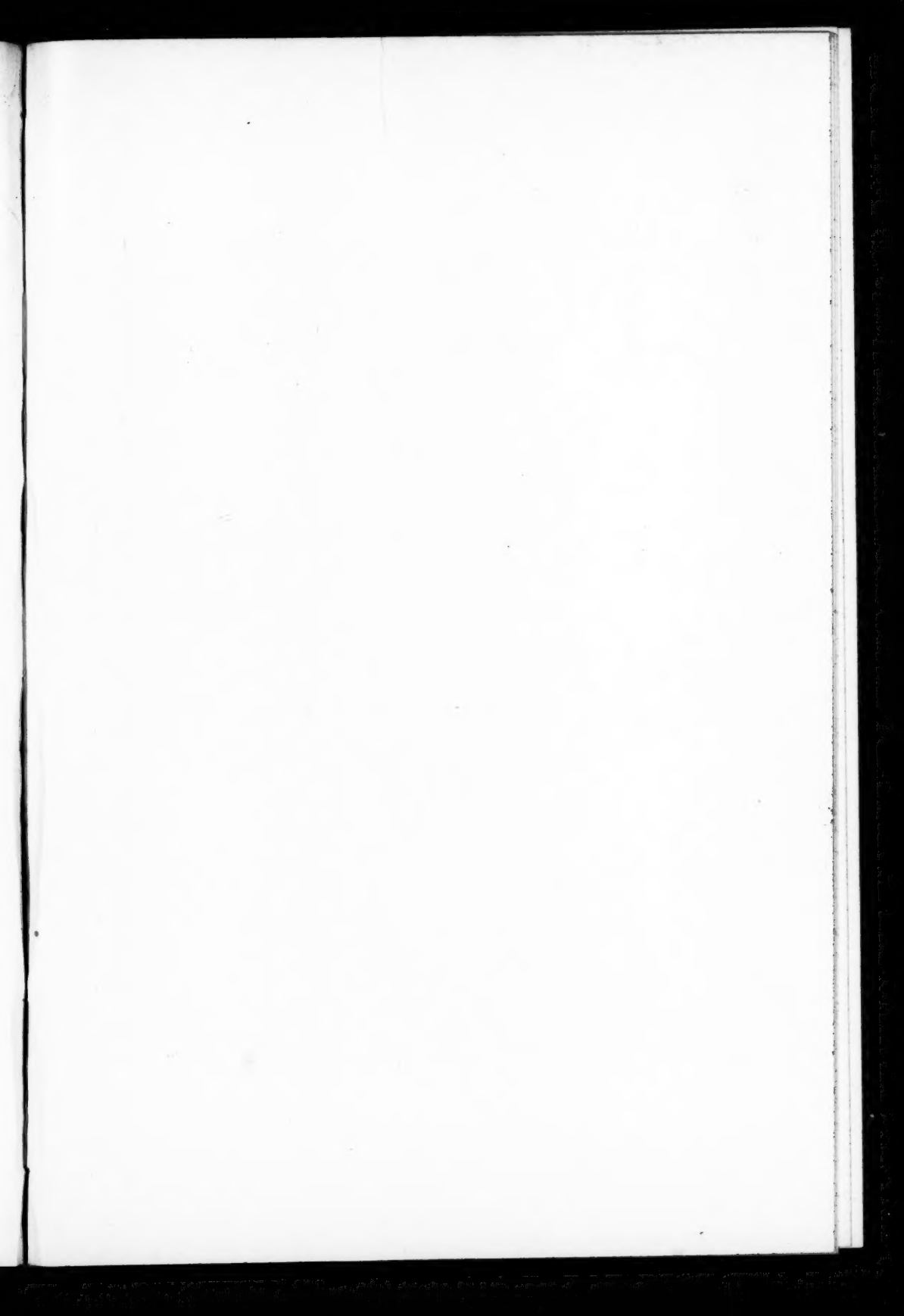
The Carnegie Corporation reports that of the 34 communities in the state of Washington having Carnegie libraries all are now fulfilling their contracts with the Carnegie Corporation by appropriating at least 10 per cent of the cost of the building for annual maintenance.

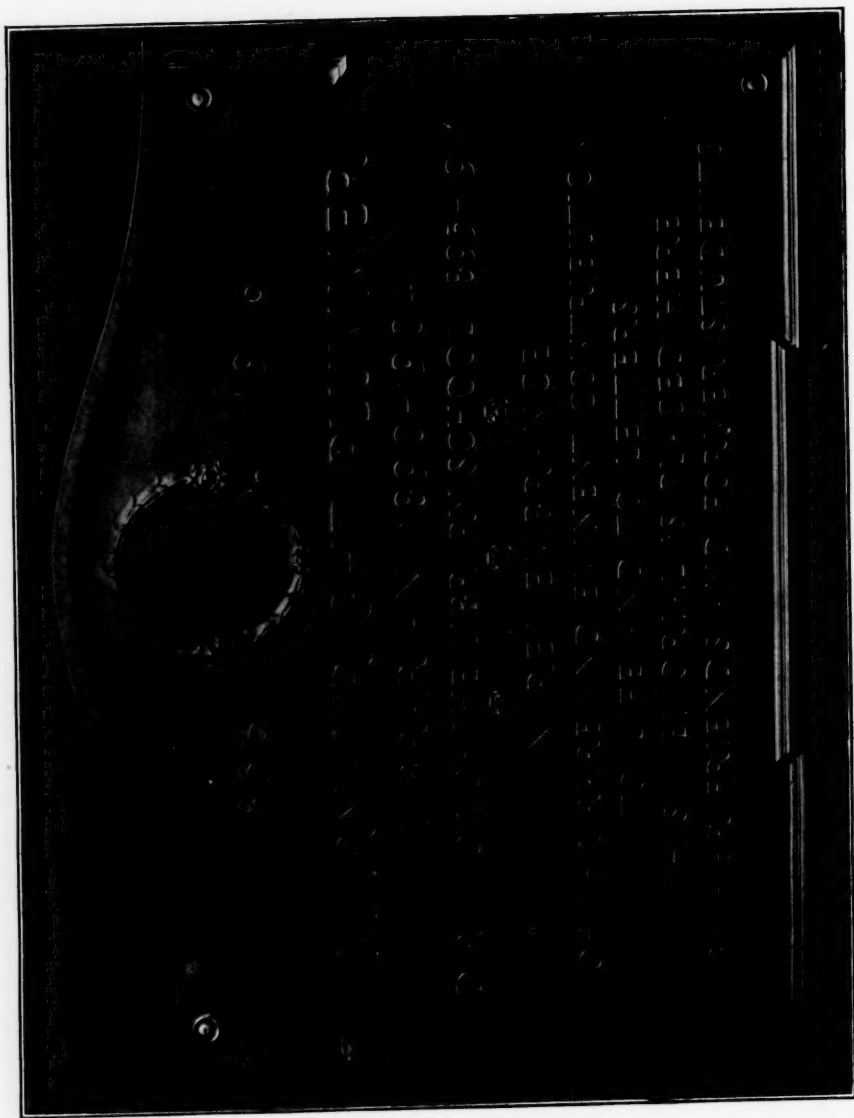
At the Tacoma public library the rule authorizing the transfer of children from the juvenile to the adult department at the age of 16 has been changed so that children will now be transferred to the adult department on entering high school. Those under 16 not attending high school will be transferred when in the judgment of the children's librarian they are ready for it.

Canada

The new Municipal library of Montreal was opened to the public on May 13 by Marshall Joffre on the occasion of his visit to the city. The distinguished visitor was received with great acclaim and was presented a golden key to the library by Mr Garneau, the librarian, in a short address to which he replied briefly, and then signed the visitors' register, his being the first name inscribed.

For Sale—*The Nation*, 1904-14. Bound, except 1914. *The Survey*, v. 21-31. Unbound, complete. Price, \$30 for both. Room 738, 110 N. Wabash Ave., Chicago.





A bronze tablet placed in Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, N. Y.